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'We are the servants of the people'

Blair lays down the law to his MPs

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

FOREIGN funding of political parties is to be banned as part of an anti-sleaze package to be announced in the Queen's speech next week.

The speech outlining the parliamentary programme, which will be approved by Tony Blair's first Cabinet meeting today, will also pave the way for the outlawing of cigarette advertising and up to other 20 measures ranging from education to devolution.

The reform of political funding, which will require the *disclosure of all sums of more* than £5,000, is an early strike at the Conservative Party, which is believed to receive *millions from overseas.*

But it was in keeping with the Prime Minister's almost austere message to his 418-strong contingent of MPs as they gathered at Westminster for the first time. He said they were not there to enjoy "the trappings of power" but to uphold the highest standards. Every one of them would be an ambassador for Labour and the Government, he said.

He welcomed them to the centre of power and government, but told them that they should remember that "we are not the masters".

He was deliberately reversing Hartley Shawcross's infamous claim after the 1945 landslide "we are the masters ... and not only for the moment, but for a very long time". The words came back to haunt him when Labour was defeated six years later, and yesterday the Prime Minister emphasised the point, declaring: "The people are the masters. We are the servants of the *people.* We will never forget that and, if we ever do, the people will very soon show that what the electorate gives, *the electorate* can take away."

He was also determined to press home the warning that Labour MPs must never tread the path of disunity and indiscipline followed by the Tories and that they must tailor their hopes and demands to the programme on which Labour fought and won the election.

Addressing them in Church House, Westminster, because there was no room big enough at the Commons, he said that provided they held true to the path he had set, there was the prospect of success for years to come. If so, Labour could so something quite special — "possibly spectacular" — for the future of the country.

Labour MPs should be be free to speak their minds — and Dennis Skinner was one of a handful who later, when the meeting became private, criticised Gordon Brown's decision to allow the Bank of England to set interest rates — but they should not follow the road of revolt.

Where were all the Tory rebels now? "When the walls came crashing down beneath the tidal wave of change, there was no discrimination between them. They were all swept away, rebels and loyalists alike. Of course speak your minds. But realise why you are here: you are here because of the Labour Party for which you fought.

"We have won a historic victory. Now the weight of *history is upon our shoulders.* Great is the excitement and hope in Britain today. Even greater is our sense of humility *and responsibility in not* disappointing those hopes."

It was a day of excitement and change at Westminster, *with some 260 MPs* entering the Commons for the first time. The Tories were trying to come to terms with sitting on the Opposition benches, and everyone appeared to be looking for new offices.

Mr Blair appeared at the prime ministerial Dispatch Box for the first time to congratulate Betty Boothroyd after her formal re-election as Speaker.

Meanwhile John Major called his depleted former Cabinet team to the Shadow Cabinet room to discuss how to handle the business of Opposition.

The seven Cabinet ministers who lost their seats will not be replaced until a new leader is chosen next month — Stephen Dorrell and William Hague yesterday joined the list of candidates. Instead, Mr Major will take on extra speaking responsibilities for foreign affairs and defence following the defeats of Malcolm Rifkind and Michael Portillo, while other former junior ministers will be drafted as necessary.

BP man's role, page 2
Cupid, QC, page 8
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The power steering team

Tony Blair has set up a strategy committee of half a *dozen ministers to direct and plan the Government's pro*gramme (Peter Riddell writes).

This inner group, which *may become more important* than the full 22-strong Cabinet, will be centred on the "Big Four", Mr Blair, John *Prescott, Gordon Brown, and* Robin Cook. Other participants will be Peter Mandelson, Minister without *Portfolio in the Cabinet Office,* Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, and Nick Brown, the Chief Whip. Mr Blair's senior advisers, Jonathan Powell and Alastair Campbell, will also attend ....Page 2

CHRIS HARRIS

Tony Blair on the steps of Church House, Westminster, yesterday with some of the 101 Labour women MPs

So much joy! So much hairspray!

BY MATTHEW PARRIS

SO many purple suits! So much hairspray! The mood teetered between a fashionable charity premiere of a star-studded new show and the headmaster's First Day address to new boys and girls.

Or should we say new girls and boys? The pastel and primary colours of the hundred-odd women present turned their male counterparts into backdrop.

"You are all ambassadors!" declared Tony Blair. Four hundred eager faces, gathered for this first prime ministerial address to the new Labour MPs, looked up in rapture. *All* ambassadors? Not in their wildest dreams had they thought Cabinet patronage extended this far.

The occasion was staged at Church House whose circular hall permits journalists to peer over the rim, as into a goldfish bowl. In the bowl, 400 new MPs had milled around, waiting. Cries of "darling!", "well *done*!" and "I just can't *believe* it!" surfaced through the hubbub. Grunts and snuffles of a thousand little hugs and *mwah! mwah!* kisses rose ceilingwards.

Somewhat removed from all this, Tony Benn sat near the back, sucking his cheeks. Dennis Skinner strode in, a man unchanged. In the same jacket, the same tie and the same jaundiced expression he always wears. Skinner looked adrift: a castaway on a sea of bright eyes, expensive haircuts, Southern accents and soft suiting.

He marched up to the new Cabinet. He began shaking their hands. Had the Beast of Bolsover been tamed?

He had not. Skinner sat down in the seat kept empty for the Chancellor and stayed there, beaming. Everyone looked embarrassed. Jack Straw looked terrified. A hatchet-faced aparatchik herded him away to an outer circle, not far from Barbara Follett, power-dressed creator of New Labour Woman. The irony was delicious.

Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio (did ever so vacant a title belie so occupied a plot?) ambled palely down the aisle. When Mr Mandelson appears, something is about to happen. It was. John Prescott was about to happen. Unable to suppress glee, the Deputy Prime Minister belted

Continued on page 2, col 1

Photograph, page 10

Twin girls alive after 40 hours in ocean

FROM BELINDA SCOTT AND PATTRICK SMELLIE

TWO teenage sisters given up for dead after jumping from a container ship 18 days ago were safe last night after surviving sharks, crocodiles, thirst and hunger. They were discovered by an Aboriginal tracker in north Australia's remote Cape York.

It was earlier thought that if the fall from the vessel — the equivalent of jumping off a three-storey building — had not killed them, then the 20 nautical-mile swim to land *through shark-infested waters* certainly would.

But the 18-year-old New Zealand twins, Sarah and *Joanne Ingham, whose par*ents are English, reached shore after 40 hours and lived off shellfish for weeks. It was *only when they started steal*ing food and shoes from a local Queensland store that they were tracked and discovered by police. A Malaysian crewman from the vessel was with them.

Last night the twins' mother, Jeanette Ingham, said that she never gave up hope that they would be found alive. She and her husband Bernard, who emigrated to New Zealand from Leeds 26 years ago, were told of their daughters' amazing survival hours after they were discovered.

"It is really brilliant," said Mrs Ingham from the couple's Kaiapoi home, north of Christchurch. "My heart didn't so much leap as swing around the light fittings when I heard they'd been found alive," she said. "It's just mind-boggling what they've been through."

She added that they were not prepared to give up during the three-week ordeal until there was 100 per cent proof that they were no longer with us. "Whenever the phone rang we always used to think it might be news of the girls. Now it's happened."

Big adventure, page 3

BP chief joins Government

Sir David Simon, one of *Britain's top businessmen,* has been made Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe. The BP chairman *was chosen by the Prime* Minister who was keen to bring a business leader into his ministerial team.

Sir David, 57, will work with both Gordon Brown and Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, to push *forward Labour plans* for the single market and spread flexible Labour markets in Europe .... Page 2

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Smokers lose ashes in the Long Room

BY ADRIAN LEE

A CENTURY of tradition was *extinguished* at the home of cricket yesterday when smoking was banned in the Long Room at Lord's.

Since 1890, the world's finest players have emerged from the haze of the Long Room on their way from the dressing *rooms to the hallowed pitch.* But non-smokers in cricket's exclusive inner sanctum rebelled, claiming that during Test matches when *up to 200* men stand shoulder to shoulder, the mix of cigarettes, pipes and cigars was overpowering. On cold days when the windows were closed, the fug was unbearable.

Led by the Rev Malcolm Gingold, from Woolwich, south east London, the non-smokers yesterday won their *battle against the ashes. A* postal ballot of the MCC's 18,000 members — all men — produced a resounding vote against smoking.

The ban will take effect next month.

As they arrived for the club's annual meeting yesterday, opponents of a ban, argued that a good strong tobacco in a pipe *is as English* as, well, *Test* match day at Lord's. Already, a curious alliance appeared to be forming between the smoking lobby and those who have campaigned against the admission of women members. "The Long Room is like a pub or anywhere else men gather," said Philip Whiffin, 78, a retired insurance executive from Maidenhead. "I have never known it to be objectionable. The ceilings are very high. If someone wants to *smoke, why the Hell not?* There are already non smoking areas in the ground. Why should they change it any more than they should allow women members?"

"I don't smoke but I believe in the freedom to do so," said Ralph Phillips, 31. "Is the MCC going to become politically correct or remain some*thing special.* You don't even notice the smoke. The idea of marching someone out of the Long Room with their pipe is ridiculous."

As Mr Gingold spoke at yesterday's meeting there were jeers of "boring, boring" from his opponents. But there was evident support for a ban in the Long Room, from *whence* MCC members will now have a clearer view.

"Tarzan doesn't want to be King of the Jungle - how do we feel about Hague?"

Six in fight for the Tory crown

The bid for the Tory leadership moved into top gear when former Welsh Secretary William Hague and former Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell entered the race.

Their declarations brought *the number of contenders to* six, including former Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke, 1995 leadership challenger John Redwood, former Home Secretary Michael Howard and former Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley.

Mr Lilley won the backing of former Education and Employment Secretary Gillian Shephard ....Page 11

SBS marines held in £10m drug case

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND STEWART TENDLER

A ROYAL MARINE attached to the Special Boat Service, the Navy's equivalent of the SAS, was arrested at the elite squad's headquarters yesterday and charged with taking part in a £10 million cannabis smuggling ring.

A second serving Marine attached to the SBS was being brought back to Britain under arrest after Customs officers, supported by armed marines, *boarded a motor-vessel, the* 280-ton *Simon de Danser,* 100 miles off Lisbon.

A former marine who had served with the SBS, a former commando and two former soldiers were also arrested.

Five men will appear in court before magistrates in Plymouth today.

The arrests come after a *year's investigation by Cus*toms officers and detectives across Europe, and it is the first time that serving special *forces' personnel have been* linked to allegations of major drug trafficking.

The operation to board the motor-vessel is understood to have been carried out by SBS men, marines from 42 Commando and a Royal Navy frigate. Two other Britons, a Frenchman and a Turk have also been arrested.

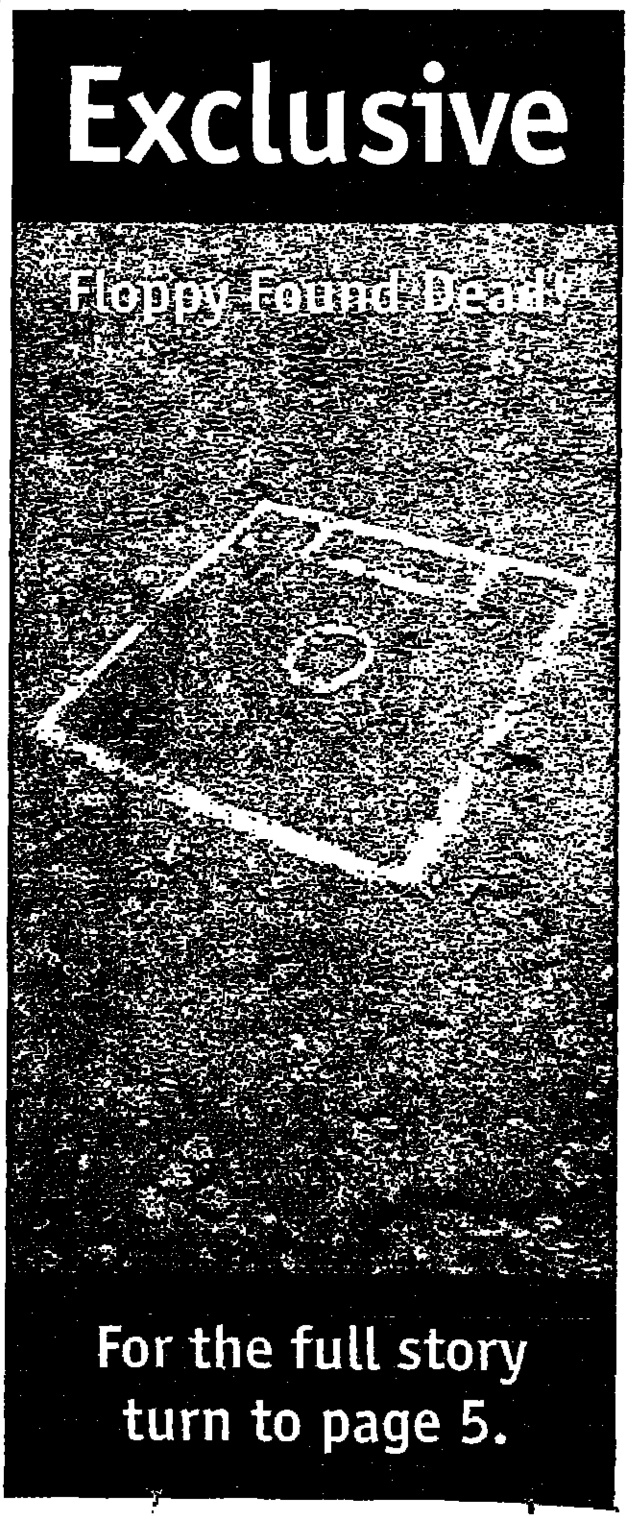
The SBS is an elite unit of about 200 men who are handpicked to go on secret operations. Only 30 per cent of those selected for training complete the course.

They are trained to swim a long way under water, to navigate any type of craft, parachute, blow up bridges and use cameras that "the *average civilian never sees*".

One of the risky roles of the SBS is to be infiltrated ashore into enemy-occupied territory to carry out reconnaissance operations prior to an amphibious landing. The SBS played a significant role in the Falklands War in 1982.

In the Gulf War in 1991, SBS marines carried out sabotage operations behind Iraqi lines, including destroying crucial fibre optic communications cables linking Baghdad with *the Iraqi forces in Kuwait.*

In Operation Maud, RAF Chinook helicopters flew 40 SBS men to a spot 40 miles south of Bahgdad. Using electronic detectors, they found the heavily insulated cables buried well below the surface, and blew them up.



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How Blair plans to keep control of 418-seat juggernaut

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

BLAIR presidency or command premiership? After less than a week, rumblings can already be heard in Whitehall about the activist, and highly political, style of the new Government. Tony Blair wants 10 Downing Street to take much more of a lead than in the past as both the driving force and co-ordinator of the Government's programme.

The convention has been that a *Prime Minister can prod and push*, and ultimately dismiss, Cabinet *ministers, but they are responsible* for running their own departments. The Blair view is that this has too often produced a lack of direction and cohesion, with ministerial initiatives often clashing with other. Hence, there is a need for a closer co-ordination both of ministers' day-to-day actions and of strategy.

Baroness Thatcher often had the same desire to direct and chivvy because of impatience with her ministers. But she generally worked informally through ad hoc *groups. John Major* attempted a more formal system of co-ordina*tion via a team of ministers at the* Cabinet Office, notably when Michael Heseltine was Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Blair is going further in transferring the centralised structure which he used in Opposition to Government — in part, by moving over most of his personal staff to No 10 in a much-expanded team of advisers. These are full of praise for the Civil Service handling of the transition. Under Whitehall rules, special advisers are not allowed to give orders to civil servants and Sir *Robin Butler has been keen to see* that the demarcation line with *career* civil servants should be preserved.

A formal exception has been made for Alastair Campbell as chief press secretary. The convention that the Prime Minister's principal private secretary is a career civil servant will be breached when Jonathan Powell takes over from Alex Allan, who is becoming Britain's High Commissioner in Australia this summer — though Harold Macmillan employed his friend John Wyndham as a joint private secretary.

Downing Street will now closely co-ordinate policy announcements *and initiatives by departments.* It also wants to ensure that the Government retains a clear strategic vision in the delivery of its programme. As Minister without Portfolio in the Cabinet Office, Peter Mandelson will in effect be chief enforcer and co-ordinator. He will chair daily meetings on presentation.

The biggest — so far undisclosed — innovation is the creation of a strategy committee of the Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, and including the rest of the Big Four (John Prescott, Gordon Brown and Robin Cook), Mr Mandelson and *the Commons business managers,* with Mr Powell and Mr Campbell *attending. This is intended to pull* together these threads, and could in time reduce the importance of the full Cabinet.

Mr Blair also wants to avoid the fate of past Labour administrations in ensuring that the party does not become a source of opposition to the Government. Mr Blair sought yesterday to remind his vast new army of its election on a new-Labour programme when he addressed the remarkable gathering of the parliamentary party at Church House.

The aim is to avoid excessive euphoria in the party and retain a *strategic focus.* This is desirable. But under a cabinet system, the centre has never successfully controlled departments. Mr Blair and his allies cannot themselves ensure that the Government succeeds. That depends on 80-plus ministers.

PETER RIDDELL

Queen's Speech to signal ban on cigarette adverts

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR is preparing to take on Britain's powerful *tobacco lobby* by banning cigarette advertising. Laws to *prohibit tobacco advertising* are expected to be signalled in Labour's first Queen's Speech next week.

At least a dozen Bills are likely to be included: these will cover legislation over the next 18 *months but the priorities* will be health, education, law *and order and devolution.*

There will be three education Bills, to repeal nursery school vouchers, phase out assisted school places, and to reform student loans and close failing state schools. There will also be a Crime and Disorder Bill and Bills for a *Scottish referendum and* Welsh Assembly. Separate legislation will be necessary on the national minimum wage — to be set by an economic commission — and to allow the Bank of England to set interest rates.

The Prime Minister is still *considering whether to bring* in an early Bill to remove the voting rights of hereditary peers or whether to delay the move for a later session. The *Queen's Speech will also* signal changes to regulate party *funding if these are approved* by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life.

Labour's manifesto commits the party to banning tobacco advertising but the policy has been hardly mentioned *since Mr Blair became* Labour leader. Yesterday, *however,* Tessa Jowell, the Health Minister, signalled that there would be early action. In a speech to the World Health Assembly in Geneva, delivered on her behalf by the deputy Chief *Medical Officer, Dr Jeremy* Metters, she said: "Smoking is *the greatest single cause of* preventable illness and death in the UK. Over the coming weeks the Government will be looking at ways of introducing an effective ban on tobacco advertising."

Successive Tory Governments have curbed advertising, *after pressure from the* medical profession, through *voluntary agreements* with the tobacco companies. But ministers have blocked European *Union measures for tougher* restrictions.

Labour's huge parliamentary majority will make it easier for the Government to push through legislation that could have proved tricky, such as the ban on cigarette advertising and Bills for referendums on *devolution. The latter are a* priority in the first session of *Parliament* so as to enable legislation for the reforms to be introduced later this year.

Other priorities include the Finance Bill which will contain the windfall tax on privatised utilities and the reduction of VAT on fuel from 8 per cent to 5 per cent.

The Finance Bill will also incorporate any other fiscal changes that Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, may decide to make in the Budget, such as closing of tax loopholes for millionaires. Legislation will also be needed for Mr Brown's £3 billion welfare-to-work *programme to get 250,000 youth* into jobs.

The Queen's Speech will include Home Secretary Jack Straw's Crime and Disorder Bill to clamp down on juvenile offenders and introduce curfews for ten-year-olds.

The legislation will encom*pass sweeping reforms of the* youth justice system including *fast-track punishment for persistent offenders:* new powers to deal with nuisance neighbours: and a new crime of racial harassment.

Legislation will also be needed to enable £1 billion of *National Lottery money to be* spent on health and education. *A separate Health Bill may be* introduced to reform the internal market in the NHS.

The party has also promised a Freedom of Information Act and to incorporate the European Convention on Human *Rights into British law,* but these measures may not all be in a first Queen's Speech.

The new team's joy

Continued from page 1

out his curtain-raiser for the Real Thing. "I don't want to say *some of the surprising* constituencies we won in!" roared the great butcher of Tory Government, and English prose.

The doors opened and in strode the Prime Minister, to roars of applause. Two doorkeepers must have been ready *behind the doors, one* assigned to each, to open both in a *synchronised movement.*

Blair looked relaxed. He stared around the hall. What a spectacle! The scene resembled a high-school dance. Most of the *girls sat together* in clumps. The boys laughed *extra* loud, to show how confident they were. The *Prime Minister spoke like a* headmaster exhorting new pu*pils to uphold the highest* standards — and never to eat on buses, in uniform.

Around the ceiling a huge, devotional frieze proclaimed in gold leaf "Holy is the true light and passing wonderful, lending *radiance to them that* endured in the heat of conflict ..." *His conflict over,* Mr Blair looked radiant. The parliamentary Labour party looked passing wonderful. I glanced around Church House. "... wherein they rejoice with gladness, evermore."

No mistaking the *gladness* and rejoicing. Evermore? Time will tell.

Role reversal: Tony Blair, left, and John Major face each other yesterday from their new sides of the House

Is everyone sitting comfortably?

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

AS MPs crowded into the Chamber, the first rogue mobile phone went off. A portent of things to come? It was billed as the Election of the Speaker, but there was no *election. It felt more like a* Happy Ending, with a surprise last-minute appearance of a spectre at the feast. Another portent?

MPs gathered early for the ceremony. The spectacle seemed unreal. All the wrong faces in all the wrong places — *and hundreds of the faces* airbrushed from the scene. *From a little bunker between* the Government and the Opposition side, white-suited Martin Bell peered out, waiting for the shelling.

Has the Chamber ever been so packed? On the Govern*ment side, new MPs crowded* the doors and overflowed into the galleries *upstairs. And* what a sight the Labour benches made! Scores more women than have been seen there before gave an aspect almost of fiesta — many dressing in the tutti-frutti *colours of Labour's election*-poster campaign. Where Ted Heath brooded for 18 years, *Dennis Skinner now occu*pied the front bench below the gangway. Those behind looked too young to be MPs.

One seemed to be sucking his thumb. He had sat with Tony Benn. Had Peter Mandelson not warned him not to talk to strange men? *Ben Bradshaw, victor of a* battle in Exeter with a Tory who dubbed him "bent Ben", kept a precautionary arm around Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe & Nantwich).

Over on the Opposition side, gingerly testing their new benches, sat the rem*nants of Margaret Thatcher's* once-proud parliamentary *army. In* black, Virginia Bottomley, equally reckless in her choice of companion, sat beside Alan Clark.

When Tony Blair arrived the government benches began to clap — there being as *yet no Speaker to admonish* them for this unparliamentary display. As John Major *approached an empty front* bench, a whip moved quickly *to his side, for company.*

But who was this at the clerks' table below the Chair? The Father of the House, Sir Edward Heath, in morning suit, was there to preside in the absence of a Speaker. He *looked like a vast black beetle.* The beetle called Mrs Dunwoody, *to propose a Speaker.* In royal blue, Betty Boothroyd sat serenely among the Government, as though unaware how short her stay was to be.

Mrs Dunwoody (feisty, *right-wing old Labour) made* a fine, funny, moving speech without *notes. The veteran* John MacGregor (C, Norfolk S) seconded her. Next, Miss Boothroyd was to indicate her gracious acceptance of the Chair.

Then Tony Benn (Chester*field) rose. Sir Edward looked* startled. John Prescott scowled. *The Prime Minis*ter's grin froze. Not (he announced) "since August 1, 1951" had he spoken from the government backbenches. Then a *Labour Government* had controlled the destinies of *hundreds of millions of colo*nial subjects abroad. "We even controlled the Bank of England." Prescott's scowl deepened. Benn *reminded* his new colleagues *that* "believe it or not, we are free men and women". Prescott's face was thunder.

Accepting the honour, Madam Speaker recalled debate on the Maastricht Bill which "had to be debated in this Chamber, as it was a constitutional issue". There was, as she intended, a gasp. The Government are toying with the idea of removing *their constitutional debates* from the floor of the House.

Tony Blair spoke lightly, and well. John Major spoke with poise and good humour. But into a sunny afternoon at Westminster Mr Benn and Miss Boothroyd had cast two small shadows. Perhaps this *Parliament* will amount to more than a collection of *mobile phones.*

Minister for Eight Seconds is first casualty of Government

Brian Donohoe: was phoned by Blair team

By Polly Newton
Political Reporter

IT was the moment every backbencher dreams of: the call from Downing Street with an invitation to join the Government.

But when it happened on Monday to *Brian Donohoe, the little-known* Labour MP for Cunninghame South in *Ayrshire,* his euphoria was shortlived.

Within seconds of learning that he had been appointed Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture — and as he waited to speak to Tony Blair — Mr Donohoe heard the click and hum of a telephone receiver being replaced as horrified officials realised they had got the wrong man. The name on the list of people that the Prime Minister had asked his civil servants to contact was not B. Donohoe, a leftwing backbench MP since 1992, but B. Donoughue, more correctly known as Lord Donoughue of Ashton. His first name is Bernard.

Mr Donohoe, 48, whose career so far has peaked at membership of the Commons transport committee, was contacted on his mobile phone by an official who told him what his job would be. He said yesterday: "They put me through to the Prime Minister. He then obviously recognised that there was a mistake and somebody pulled the plug. I was a Minister of State for eight seconds."

Mr *Donohoe said he rang back to* find out what was going on. "They said it was a wrong number and they put the phone down on me."

It was almost certainly his broad Scottish accent that gave the game away — Lord Donoughue is from Northamptonshire.

Mr Donohoe said he had received *neither an apology nor an explanation* from Downing Street. Yesterday a Downing Street spokeswoman confirmed that there had been a mix-up. "The Prime Minister did send out a list of the people he wanted to speak to. It said B. Donoughue, not B. Donohoe. There was a *mistake made.*"

Mr Donohoe admitted that he was disappointed to have had a wholly unexpected promotion so cruelly snatched away. "It's a great *letdown.* Obviously, I can do nothing about it and I don't want to make too much of it," he said.

☐ *Tony Blair last night moved to make* new Labour the party of open govern*ment with the confirmation that he* plans to push through a Freedom of Information Bill in this session of parliament. The Prime Minister has allowed the first ever photograph to be taken inside a Cabinet Committee.

Leading article, page 21

Lord Donoughue: the intended Minister

Simon: fluent in seven languages

Labour woos City with post for BP chairman

By Jill Sherman and Oliver August

THE appointment of Sir *David Simon as Minister* for Trade and Competitive*ness in Europe was seen as* another attempt to show the City that Labour can work with business.

Sir David, 57, will work closely with Gordon Brown and Margaret *Beckett to promote* Labour's plans to complete the *single market and* encourage flexible labour markets across the EU.

Mr Blair regards Sir David "as the most impressive businessman he has met", according to sources at Downing Street. He will become a life peer and *Treasury spokesman in the* Lords, and will not be paid.

He will give up his work for BP but it is understood that he is happy not to receive a salary for his new post. "We are limited to the amount of paid appointments we can make," a government source said.

Sir David was born in *London but spent part of* his childhood in France. His father, Roger, was a fighter pilot with the Free French and an associate of General de Gaulle. When France fell to the Germans in 1940, de Gaulle came to London and plotted the *recapture of France with* the help of Sir David's father.

In 1945, the family followed de Gaulle back to liberated Paris but was soon dismayed at how the French treated the hero general. On hearing the *news of de Gaulle's tempo*rary retirement from poli*tics in 1947, Roger Simon* returned to London and vowed never again to set foot on French soil.

His son studied at Cambridge, from where he went straight to BP in 1961, rising to chairman in 1995. Sir David's first wife was *from Norway and he* learnt the language from her. He also *speaks* French, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. His married again in 1992.

A *sports lover, he has* said the person he would *most like to swap jobs with* is Des Lynam. Asked what made him laugh the most, he replied: "John Cleese, Evelyn Waugh and the Tottenham back four playing anywhere."

Sir David is a member of the European Competitive*ness Advisory Group and a* director of the Bank of England. He has been Businessman of the Year for the past two years.

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WPC Alice Collins

WPC hit by IRA sniper is back home

By Nicholas Watt

ALICE COLLINS, the police constable gravely injured after being shot in the back by an IRA sniper in Londonderry last month, was discharged from hospital yesterday.

Friends welcomed Mrs Collins, 46, as she returned to her home with her husband and three children. She underwent six hours of emergency surgery after the shooting on April 10.

Dr James Mehaffey, the Church of Ireland Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, who was a regular visitor to Mrs Collins's bedside at the Altnagelvin Hospital, said: "Mrs Collins is a woman of great and wonderful courage. She was determined to get better and she developed a wonderful spirit in hospital."

As Mrs Collins returned home yesterday, police in Londonderry arrested three men in connection with the shooting.

IRA supporters sent a chilling warning on Tuesday night when they hijacked a van in Belfast and forced the driver to take it to Waterfront Hall, where the Prince of Wales was guest of honour at a gala concert. Soldiers carried out controlled explosions, but no bomb was found.

Girls' Own adventure ends after twins survive sea and sharks

Stowaway sisters hid for two months in tiny rope store

From Belinda Scott
in Cairns and
Roger Maynard
in Sydney

TEENAGE stowaways Sarah and Joanne Ingham hid for two months in a tiny store room on a container ship sailing from New Zealand to Singapore. The 18-year-old twins, wanted for minor offences at home, are believed to have been smuggled on board by crewmen they had befriended in Auckland.

Supplies of food and drink kept them safe in their forepeak refuge, used to store ropes, throughout the voyage to Singapore. But the secret passengers were discovered a day after the vessel left on the return voyage.

The captain ordered the girls to be kept locked in the cook's quarters. They were last seen at 10.30pm on Saturday, April 19, with a crewman, Jaafar bin Mohamed Zan. A few hours later the three jumped from the ship off the Australian coast between Lockhart River and Princess Charlotte Bay. They were reported missing the next day.

Joanne Ingham: lived on crabs and rainwater

along with three lifejackets and four lifebuoys.

An air and sea search failed to find any trace of them, and all but the girls' parents had given the trio up for dead in the shark-infested waters off the Queensland coast. But yesterday it emerged that they had made it to shore after nearly 40 hours in the water.

They staggered on to a beach in isolated Princess Charlotte Bay, where they lived on crabs and oysters and drank rainwater for 17 days. Eventually they tried to make their way to civilisation but became lost in the bush.

One report said that they had stumbled across a group of Aborigines who took them to the nearest town, Coen, about 50 miles away.

The three appeared reluctant to return. The Malaysian seaman had to be physically detained by an official from the Aboriginal community to prevent him escaping into the bush.

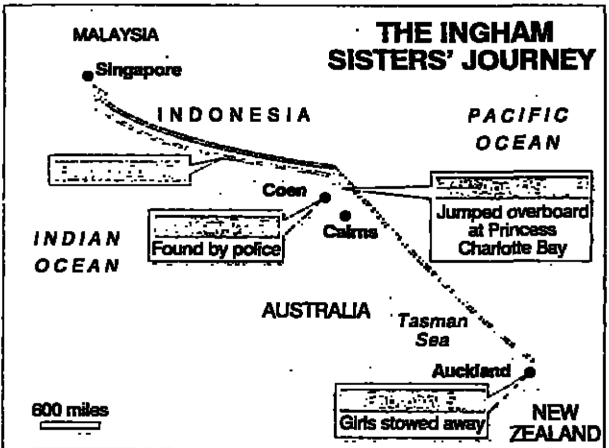
The girls, whose parents emigrated from Leeds to New Zealand in 1971, were being treated for severe sunburn yesterday and held under arrest. They are to be deported to New Zealand.

Sergeant John Moran said: "We are still trying to get to the bottom of all this, but it's a quite astonishing story of survival. It's amazing they didn't get eaten by a shark."

The twins' parents, Bernard and Jeanette, live in Kaiapoi, north of Christchurch. Mr Ingham, 53, said he had always been convinced that the twins were alive because they were so "independent and strong-willed".

"We still love them and we want them back," Mrs Ingham, also 53, said. Last night the couple were still waiting to talk to their daughters, who were undergoing treatment for sunburn and exposure at Cairns Hospital. Police and immigration officials were waiting to question the sisters further.

The girls did not live at home and had been working in Nelson, about four hours' drive from Christchurch, until their disappearance. "They did some silly things and had some funny ideas on things, but they were not bad people and weren't criminals," Mr Ingham said.



Sarah Ingham in Cairns yesterday after being found in the bush by Aborigines

Panorama put to flight by Essex girls

By Carol Midgley
Media Correspondent

PANORAMA, the BBC's flagship current affairs programme, is being moved from the prime-time slot it has occupied for 12 years to make way for the popular sitcom *Birds of a Feather*.

In an effort to "beef up" Monday night viewing, the BBC has decided to put a mass appeal show in the 9.30pm slot, directly after the *Nine O'Clock News*, to compete with ITV drama.

The comedy series, which focuses on the lives of two Essex girls Sharon and Tracey and stars Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson, is one of the most successful light entertainment shows on television.

Panorama, which has run since 1953, will start half an hour later at 10pm from June 2 to compete with ITV's *News at Ten*.

Programmers denied that the move was a demotion for *Panorama* or that it was losing viewers but was merely to "strengthen the overal mix" of the Monday night schedule. The programme last year averaged 4.3 million viewers a week and achieved a 20 per cent audience share.

Mark Thompson, controller of BBC2 and acting controller of BBC1, said: "We want to strengthen and broaden BBC1's Monday night line-up. *Panorama* has a well-earned reputation for powerful and highly relevant journalism. Both it and the *Nine O'Clock News* should benefit from these changes."

Steve Hewlett, editor of *Panorama*, said: "Other factual programmes have done well when they have moved to this time. I see it as an opportunity for *Panorama* to reach a bigger share of the audience, many of whom currently switch over to watch us at 10pm having missed most of the programme."

Benn case man 'given choice of bribe or death'

By Richard Duce

RAYMOND SULLIVAN was offered the choice of accepting £100,000 to drop assault charges against the boxer Nigel Benn or becoming the target of a contract killer, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr Sullivan, a former close friend of the boxer, said the offer was made two weeks before Mr Benn's trial began on Tuesday at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court.

Mr Sullivan, 33, from east London, is the main prosecution witness against Mr Benn, who is alleged to have carried out an unprovoked attack on him with a glass ashtray at a Mayfair nightclub in September. Mr Sullivan needed 105 stitches to his nose, which he described as being split open "like a pair of curtains".

Trevor Burke, for the defence, asked Mr Sullivan if he had let it be known that he was prepared to drop charges against the boxer if he was paid £100,000. Mr Sullivan, who runs a ticket sales business, told the jury that the claim was ridiculous. He said: "Someone suggested to me I could get £100,000 if I were to drop the charges. If not, a person would take a contract out on my life."

He denied trying to frame Mr Benn for the attack by persuading witnesses to come forward once he had failed in a civil action to claim £50,000 damages from Mr Benn for his injuries.

Mr Sullivan said he had known Mr Benn for ten years and the pair had once been "like brothers". But they fell out after Mr Benn discovered Mr Sullivan had tried to "chat up" the boxer's girlfriend. "He hated me, I suppose," said Mr Sullivan. Mr Burke suggested the men had fallen out because Mr Sullivan was convicted of drugs dealing and Mr Benn did not approve.

The court was told that Mr Sullivan had informed police of the death threat and that Mr Benn had been questioned about the alleged £20,000 contract. Mr Sullivan denied he had made up a version of events at Legends Night Club in an attempt to extract money from Mr Benn as he prepared for a world title fight last November.

Under cross-examination from Trevor Burke, for Mr Benn, Mr Sullivan said he arranged for photographs of his injuries to be taken by the surgeon who stitched his nose. Through an agent, Mr Sullivan sold the photographs for £10,000 to *The Sun*, which carried a front page article with the headline "Benn did this to me".

Mr Sullivan said: "All I wanted to do was get a picture in the paper because everyone was denying it [the assault]. I just wanted people to know what he had done to me. I was frightened. Had he won [the world title fight], the implications would have been magnified."

Mr Sullivan admitted that, although he told police that he had not seen who attacked him, he had initiated a civil action against Mr Benn in an attempt to get £50,000 compensation for his injuries.

Mr Benn from Beckenham, Kent, denies wounding Mr Sullivan with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. He also denies a lesser alternative charge of unlawful wounding.

The case continues today.

Detention for 17st boy who led rape of tourist

By Lin Jenkins

THE 17-stone ringleader of a teenage gang that raped an Austrian tourist and threw her into a canal to drown after an hour-long attack was sentenced to 12 years detention yesterday.

Adrian Henry, 14, was the last of seven gang members to be jailed for the attack on the banks of a canal in King's Cross, London. Judge Verney, the Recorder of London, told Henry that he had shown his victim no mercy and he could expect none to be shown to him.

After sentencing, Detective Sergeant Keith Manktelow, who led the inquiry, said he recognised the danger Henry posed. "That boy is going to be a serial something," he said. It emerged that Henry had been beyond the control of his mother and social workers and had broken curfew from a childrens' home on the night of the attack.

Henry, who is 6ft 2in and called Congo by gang members, showed no emotion as he was sentenced at the Old Bailey. He sauntered casually from the court as he began his journey to Glenthorne Young Offenders' Institute.

The judge was it was particularly worrying that Henry, who had changed his plea to guilty only as the trial was due to start, had no realisation of the awfulness of what he had done but maintained the first act of intercourse was with consent. "Having heard her evidence I am absolutely certain that what you did was rape and that you were the first to do it."

He said Henry chanted: "Now the party is going to start," as the 32-year-old mother-of-two was dragged to a canal side, lifted up and stripped. "How you can possibly imagine, if you do, that a woman who has been so treated was agreeing to have sexual intercourse with you is beyond understanding."

Henry, born in Britain of Afro-Caribbean parents, was in the care of Islington social services, living in a children's home and on bail for mugging offences when he took part in the rape. At Beatrice House, the privately run children's home in Finsbury Park where he had been placed five months earlier, records show he repeatedly arrived back as late as 5am.

Police had cautioned him for his first offence of carrying an offensive weapon. When he was on remand in secure accommodation awaiting trial for three street robberies he set fire to his room. His mother, a former nursery nurse, lost control of him after her marriage to a rail worker collapsed eight years ago and she developed multiple sclerosis. Henry was once a promising basketball player but now, in the view of police and social workers, he was out of control and destined for a life in the penal system.

Henry: destined to be a "serial something"

The other gang members were sentenced on April 18 to between 10 and 12 years for their part in the attack. Six pleaded guilty and one, the youngest, was convicted after a trial in which the victim travelled to England to give evidence.

Her former husband was in court yesterday for the sentencing. He has blamed his reaction to the rape for their divorce although his wife said it was the final straw in their collapse of their relationship.

Michael Cogan, for the defence, said Henry lived in a fantasy world, struggling to live up to the image created by his large size at such a young age. He said he idolised the father who had left his mother eight years ago.

The judge ordered that Henry remain under supervision for the whole period of the sentence. He also lifted an order banning identification of two of the three of those previously sentenced because a pending trial for robbing a tourist at knifepoint was not going to continue. The third youth still faced other charges.

They were Calville Angol, 18, the eldest of the gang. He had been sentenced to 11 years.

The other was Timothy Davies, 17, who lived in Clerkenwell with his Venezuelean mother and sister. He was sentenced to 11 years.

Suicide woman's threat to rescuers

By Tim Jones

A FORMER headmistress who killed herself because of failing health left a note threatening to sue anyone who successfully revived her.

Gertrude Haynes, 81, an inquest was told, hung the note around her neck before taking an overdose of sleeping pills and placing a bag over her head. But in spite of her final request, Eugene Clancey, a paramedic, battled in vain to save her life. His failed attempt to resuscitate Miss Haynes was praised by Dr Richard Whittington, the Birmingham city coroner.

He said such notices should not prevent medical staff seeking to revive people who had attempted suicide.

Miss Hayes, whose body was found at her bungalow in Bournville, had always promised to take her own life if her health began to fail, the inquest was told. A copy of *The Final Exit*, which details ways in which people can end their lives, was found in her home.

Her friend, Deirdre Farthing, said Miss Haynes had become frustrated at getting tired. "She made no secret of wanting to end her life if her health failed." But Miss Haynes had remained active and kept a clean, well ordered house and enjoyed gardening.

Before her death, Miss Haynes was a well known figure at the local museum, where her books on growing up in Birmingham, written as Litia Haynes, were sold.

Dr Whittington said Miss Haynes had demonstrated a long and clear intention to take here own life in certain circumstances. "She was determined to maintain her standards but this was becoming too much for her."

But people who believed they could prevent treatment by putting notices around themselves were wrong.

After the verdict of suicide, Meridith MacArdale, of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, said that seriously ill people had the right to reject medicines designed simply to keep them alive.

Steve Evans, of the West Midlands Ambulance Service, said: "If a conscious person makes a specific request not to have medical assistance then we have to acknowledge that request. But if someone is unconscious then the paramedics will do what they are trained to do and save lives."

Cambridge club disbanded after drunken spree

By David Charter
Education Correspondent

A COLLEGE club at Cambridge University has been disbanded in disgrace after its annual dinner descended into drunken excess.

The all-male Griffins club, which was founded to celebrate sporting excellence, may be allowed to re-form only if women are admitted to membership, to help curb further "blokey" excesses.

The club for sportsmen at Downing College was banned after members were thrown out of the Royal Cambridge Hotel. They were accused of harassing female staff, throwing food, and vomiting on the table after drinking bottles of wine at one go.

One postgraduate was sent down, a student was rusticated for a year, and the other members have been asked to leave their rooms in the college.

Professor David King, Master of the college, said: "The gentlemen-only concept dates back from a time when all-male colleges existed, but I feel that the club should reflect the present situation. The Griffins not only excluded women, they've excluded sportsmen of their own choosing."

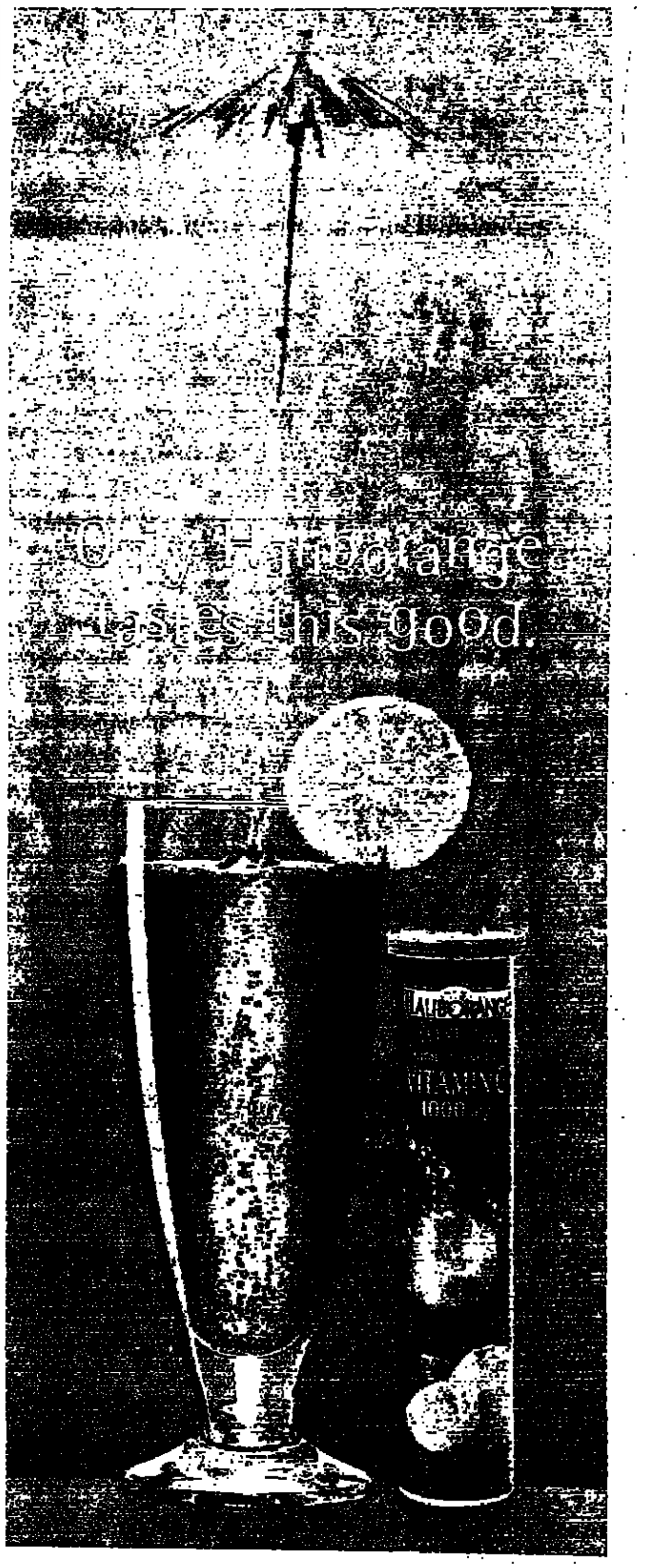
Jon Dymond, student president of Downing College, said: "It will be re-established to fulfil the original spirit of the Griffins which was to recognise sporting excellence. The idea is to get away from this blokey, beer-swilling image and put it back to the way it was supposed to be. That sort of behaviour was unacceptable to the college."

Mr Dymond, who is the captain of another college drinking society, blamed the presence of old boys for the bad behaviour. "The punishments were severe but those responsible did a lot of damage," he said.

It cost the Royal Cambridge Hotel about £750 to clean the carpet, the curtains and wash the tablecloths. A hotel employee told *Varsity*, the student newspaper, that one member of staff had to have his suit replaced.

The Griffins club dates back to the turn of the century. Downing has a strong reputation as a sporting college and by tradition the election to membership involved having achieved some sporting success, usually at rugby, rowing or football. But in recent years, membership, while essentially sporting, has become wider.

Some students were said to have behaved properly at the hotel but the Downing College disciplinary committee later interviewed the 19 undergraduates present and punished them all.



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Royals must endure the limelight, says public

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent

MOST people believe National Lottery winners deserve privacy more than the Royal Family does, according to a study. The Broadcasting Standards Commission (BSC) found that the "innocent bystanders of life" were considered to warrant more protection from media intrusion than any public figure.

Only rapists, drug dealers and shoplifters were less deserving of privacy than politicians. Religious leaders and film stars were the next least deserving groups. Children, the sick and disabled, and victims of crime deserved the most protection.

While nearly half the people questioned believed a lottery winner should have the right not to appear on a television programme, only 16 per cent believed the Royal Family deserved the same right.

Fewer than 14 per cent said that school teachers, senior police officers and senior civil servants and businessmen had an absolute right to privacy. The BBC was seen as more sensitive to people's private lives than ITV, Channel 4 or satellite and cable channels.

Michael Svennevig, of the Institute of Communications Studies at Leeds University, which carried out the research for the BSC, said: "To the public, the innocent bystanders of life have lots of rights to privacy. The cut-off comes when you have people with status, who have a public role."

He added that most people believed that if a person behaved badly — by breaking the law or courting publicity for their own ends, for example — their rights were forfeited.

That applied to members of the Royal Family — the Duchess of York in particular — and to celebrities. Few people believed the actress Elizabeth Hurley, whose partner Hugh Grant was arrested with a Los Angeles prostitute, deserved privacy. There was also little sympathy for David Mellor, the former MP whose affair with an actress was exposed by a newspaper, or for his wronged wife.

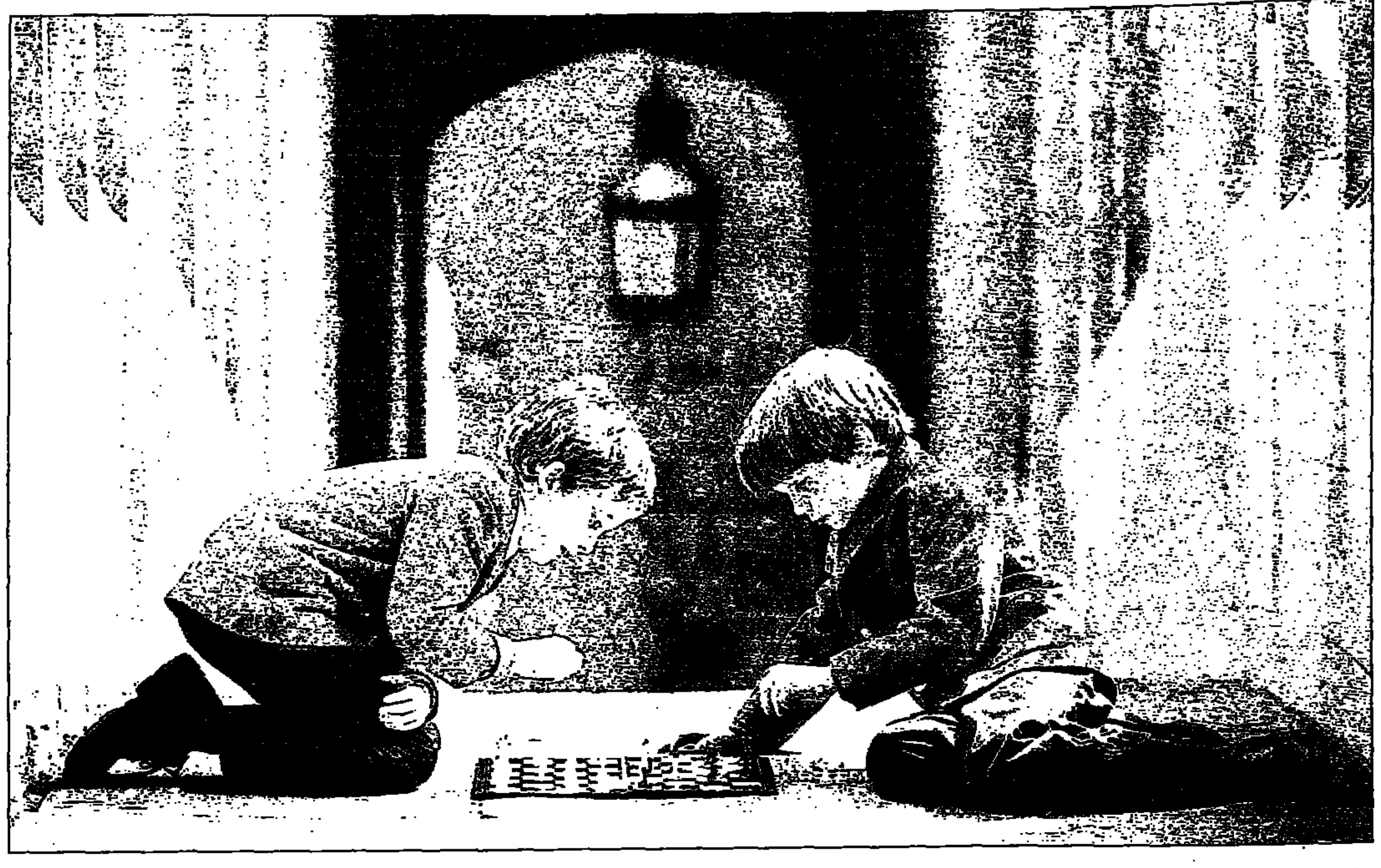
So-called victim entertainment programmes, such as *Blues and Twos* and *Police, Camera, Action!*, in which real accidents were filmed by camera crews working with the emergency services, were implicitly criticised. Most people believed victims should not be filmed without their permission and when they were vulnerable.

Lady Howe of Aberavon, chairman of the BSC, said broadcasters should heed public feeling. "People are very interested in these programmes, but they are ambivalent about this aspect of it."

But the BSC, newly charged with ensuring fairness to individuals in the media, will treat all complainants alike, Jane Leighton, the deputy chairman, said.

The BSC came into being on April 1 after the merger of the Broadcasting Standards Council and the Broadcasting Complaints Commission. Its privacy report, *Regulating for Changing Values*, found that many parents saw television as anti-authority and encouraging bad behaviour, such as swearing. It said viewers and listeners would like to be tolerant, but believed broadcasters should be regulated for the common good.

Hurley: little sympathy for right to privacy



MICHAEL POWELL

Twins, 9, play for England

IDENTICAL nine-year-old twins have been chosen to represent England at chess (Joanna Bale writes). Adam Eckersley-Waites, left, has been selected to play in the under-11 squad, and Tom in the under-10 side.

Adam and Tom's father, Christopher Waites, a former junior international, taught them to play when they were four. The boys, who live near Cambridge, are coached by Andrew Martin, who is an International Master, the level below Grand Master. "We are lucky that we are both about the same standard and that we can practise with each other," Adam said. "It really helps our game and we hope to be Grand Masters by the time we are about 20."

Tom said: "If we can't be Grand Masters, we would like to be professional table tennis players instead." Mr Waites, an actuary, said: "Although they are terribly alike in many ways, they play in different styles. Adam is more impulsive, while Tom is more considered and strategic. They were very easy to teach because they were so keen. They also learned to read and ski very early."

Pop go Proms in hunt for a bigger audience

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent

THE music of the Beatles is to feature alongside Brahms and Chopin for the first time at this year's Proms in an attempt to broaden their appeal.

The work of the rock composer and guitarist Frank Zappa will also be included as part of the policy to introduce a popular touch to the world's biggest music festival and bring in bigger audiences.

Nick Kenyon, the director of the Proms and Controller of Radio 3, is also involving the television sports presenter Desmond Lynam in an accompanying CD to mark this year's season. Celebrities ranging from the actress Amanda Redman to Dame Edna Everage choose their own favourite pieces for the compilation.

A cappella versions of Lennon and McCartney's *Eleanor Rigby*, *Penny Lane*, *I'll Follow The Sun* and *Honey Pie* will feature at the Royal Albert Hall on July 31, performed by the King's Singers. Excerpts from Zappa's *The Yellow Shark* will be played there on July 20 by the John Adams Scratch Band.

Mr Kenyon said: "The Proms are for everyone. At a time when media myth has it that some audiences find the formality of concerts off-putting, the Proms annually prove otherwise."

He said there would be a considerable number of premieres at the Proms, including work by the 16th-century composer John Sheppard. "Also at the lighter end of the spectrum there is a 70th birthday celebration concert for John Dankworth and Cleo Laine."

Organisers concede this is the first time such popular music has played a part in the Proms. Last year, however, music by the Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim was included for the first time.

For the CD, the tennis player Tim Henman selects Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, Miss Redman picks Barber's *Adagio for Strings* and Dame Edna *The Seven Deadly Sins* by Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht.

Consortium plans TV-top shopping

By Eric Reguly

THE Midland Bank, BSkyB and BT joined forces yesterday in a digital television project that will allow viewers to shop and book holidays from home.

With the Japanese company Matsushita Electric they have formed British Interactive Broadcasting (BIB), which will market set-top boxes for about £200.

The scheme, which will give viewers access to services including home banking, the Internet and e-mail, will be available to the 3.5 million people who subscribe to BSkyB's satellite services. BIB plans to offer the same package to the 2 million customers of cable television and the new digital terrestrial broadcasters, potentially broadening the market to more than a quarter of the population. Customers will also have to pay for the installation of the hardware, expected to cost £75 to £100.

The first interactive services will be available in the summer of 1998 if BIB receives regulatory approval.

BT and BSkyB will each own 32.5 per cent of the company, Midland 20 per cent and Matsushita Electric, the Panasonic brand, 15 per cent. BSkyB is 40 per cent owned by The News Corporation, owner of *The Times*.

The four companies will invest about £265 million in BIB, most of which will be used to subsidise the price of the digital set-top boxes. In exchange, BIB's owners will share income generated by the interactive services.

Customers will not be charged a subscriber fee. BIB will make money instead by charging the content providers, such as the banks and the retailers. Consumers may have to pay fees for special services and content: electronic games companies, for example, may charge viewers a small fee to download game software into the set-top box.

HMV, Sainsbury, Great Universal Stores and Dorling Kindersley, the electronic publisher, are among the companies that have agreed to provide services. Viewers will also be able to use a slot in the set-top box to pay bills by credit and debit cards, and electronic cash cards. Midland Bank said security systems would ensure that payment details were secret.

Business news, page 25

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lovers are found dead after quarrel

A man killed himself after he stabbed his lover to death in an argument. A note addressed to police was stuffed into the hand of Diane Hamer, 32, who had lived with Arthur Compsty, 61, for four years.

Ms Hamer, a hairdresser, was found with multiple stab wounds at their house in Grimsargh, near Preston. Mr Compsty, who died from carbon monoxide poisoning, was in the garage. The bodies were discovered by a business associate of the dead man.

Salmonella death

An elderly woman has died and 39 people, mostly children and the retired, are ill after an outbreak of salmonella on Tyneside. Doctors at Newcastle General Hospital are trying to establish a link between the cases.

MP's cousin dies

A Labour MP's cousin was found dead after a two-day celebration of the party's election victory. Keith Narey, 50, a former Militant activist whose cousin, Gerry Sutcliffe, held Bradford South, collapsed outside his flat in the city.

Accident award

Graham Kamaly-Asl, 29, who was left tetraplegic after diving into a swimming pool where there were no depth signs, has won £875,000 in an out-of-court settlement with Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council.

Neil takes over

Andrew Neil, formerly of *The Sunday Times*, has taken editorial control of *The European*. A statement said the Editor, Charles Garside, had left "to pursue other interests". Mr Neil, 47, joined as editor-in-chief in January.

Boy left behind

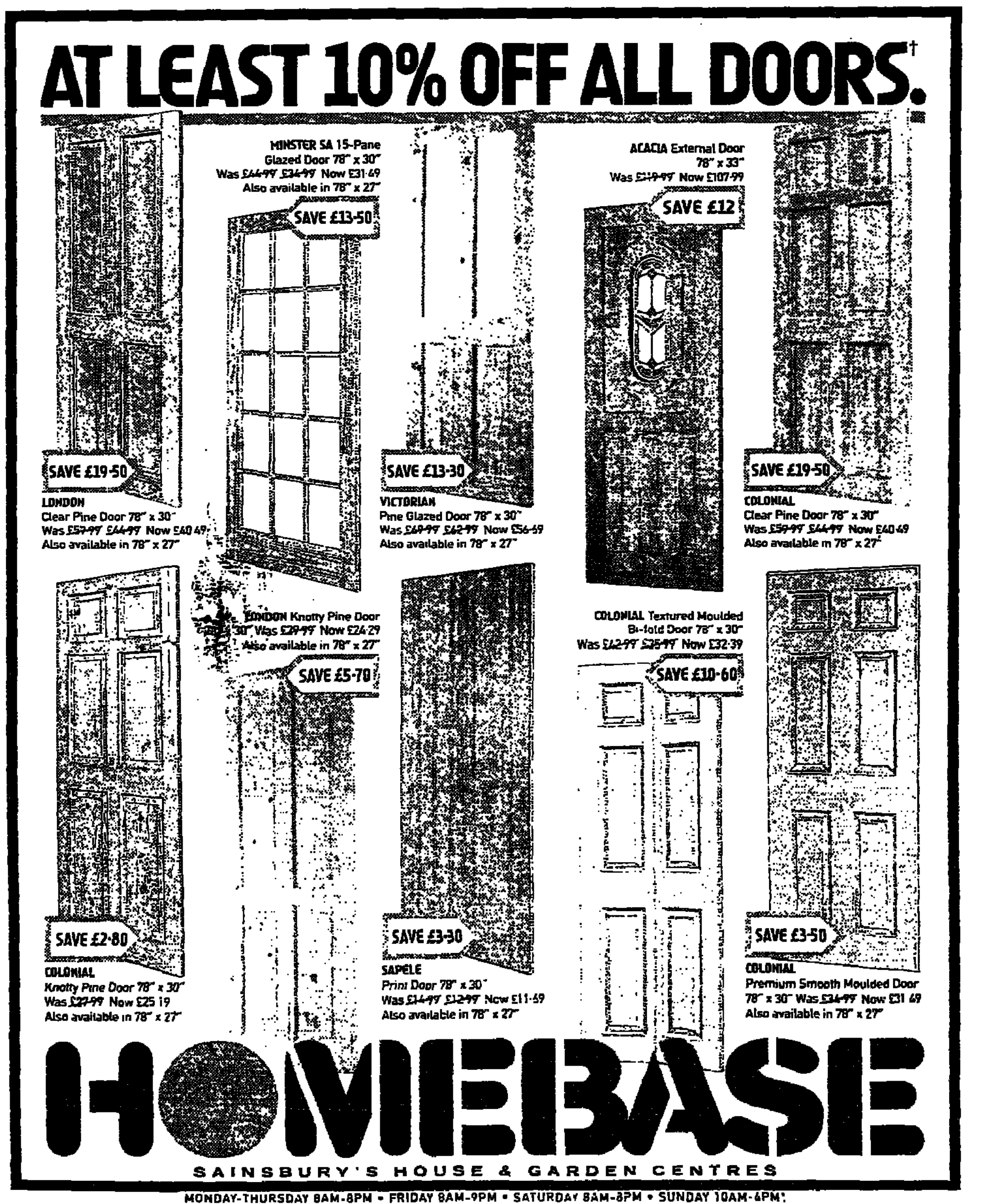
A boy aged 12 was found on a roadside after a church group left him behind on an outing. Daniel Earl was left at dusk in a country park four miles from his Yeovil home. Paul Ellison, of Larkville Christian Centre, said: "We are at fault."

Hawk sees again

A year-old harris hawk, of North American origin, has had its vision restored by a cataract operation at the Centre for Small Animal Studies, near Newmarket. The surgery means it can see its prey.

Keeping time

Colin Riley has been commissioned by Swindon council to write a symphony that incorporates the noise of passing trains. The Bournemouth Sinfonietta premieres the piece in June at an open-air concert near the town's station.



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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

High-tech angling is banned as too fishy

By Stewart Tendler and Audrey Magee

ANGLERS have been banned from using high-tech fish-finders after a competitor in a fishing match was discovered sitting on a river bank with a miniature echo-sounder by his side.

Roger Mortimer netted 374 roach, tench and perch using the device, which dangled from a pole into the water in front of his seat. A display by his side alerted him to the movements of quarry in the River Glen in Lincolnshire and Mr Mortimer cast his bait among them.

The technique won him fourth place and £60 in a local competition, but the National Angling Federation and the *Angling Times*, which run the majority of coarse fishing competitions in this country, have since banned such devices.

The National Park in Killarney, Co Kerry, has also banned the equipment for unfairly tracking down half a million brown trout and salmon in three lakes. Fishing experts forecast that many other stillwater owners in Britain will follow suit, amid concern that fish stocks will be rapidly depleted if the fish-finding equipment becomes more popular.

The best equipment, which costs more than £350, can report not only the presence of fish but their depth and weight. Specimen hunters searching for wild brown trout in the deep Scottish lochs have used the fish-finders to catch monsters of more than 19lb.

In Ireland, Chris Flynn, assistant director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, said that the ban on fish-finders was necessary to protect the lakes from over-fishing. He said: "Fishermen have to compete equally with nature if the fish are going to last."

Local fishermen using Lough Leane, Muckross Lake and the Upper Lake in the park welcomed the ban on fish-finders. Michael Hegarty, vice-chairman of Lough Leane Anglers, said: "There is no thrill in their methods, which are very unfair. Most of us go out purely for relaxation and if we catch a few trout, it's a bonus."

However, Gowen & Bradshaw, a Galway company supplying fish-finders to salmon and trout fishermen in the west of Ireland, claimed that the device did little to improve the catch. A spokesman said it helped fishermen to understand the terrain and learn about fish. "It is like having a compass on a hill — it helps you but it won't get you there. You still have to get the fish to open their mouths.

"How are you going to do that with a fish-finder? Lean out the boat and say 'Aah'? You still have to do all the hard work."

BARRY GREENWOOD

Sheep in the snow at Hebden Bridge, west Yorkshire, search for better grazing yesterday. Farmers said that lambs could be at risk if the cold and snow continued (Michael Hornsby writes). After April's warmth and last week's heat, the cold snap has wrecked hopes of a bumper strawberry crop and blasted plants and flowers lured into early bloom. Sub-zero temperatures were recorded in central and southern England on Tuesday night after sleet that day. The London Weather Centre received reports of brief snow flurries. A month ago, strawberry-growers were forecasting that production would be 40 per cent up on last year. Yesterday, Michael Alley, of the National Summer Fruits Association, said: "The main strawberry crop has been clobbered. The later-planted crops should be OK, provided it warms up, but this could still mean we will lose 10 to 15 per cent." Trevor Sims, an adviser at Wisley, the Surrey garden run by the Royal Horticultural Society, said: "Plums are looking dodgy. The crop came into flower early and a lot of the fruit was killed off by the frost in late April. Frosts and freezing nights are not particularly uncommon in May, but they can cause a lot of damage when combined with an early spring which brings plants into early bloom."

Winter's return hits strawberry crop

Forecast, page 24

Saturday in THE TIMES

Ginny Dougary on novelist Fay Weldon as breadwinner for a 'strange' family of seven children

weekend

Combined therapy may kill Aids virus

By Ian Murray
Medical Correspondent

NEW treatments for human immuno-deficiency virus may make it possible to cure patients within three years, scientists have said.

Although nobody has received the new treatments for long enough to show that HIV can be eradicated, researchers in America forecast that it should be possible.

So far drugs have been successful only in delaying the progression from HIV to Aids by about eight years. However, new therapies that rely on combinations of the more powerful drugs are proving successful in clearing out the virus, according to a team from the Aaron Diamond Research Center at Rockefeller University, New York.

In a letter to *Nature*, they report on a trial in which the HIV concentration in the patient's blood dropped by 99 per cent. That was followed by a second phase as the virus invaded the cells and multiplied but the number of infected cells continued to fall.

Flowers change genes for Chelsea

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

GENETICALLY modified plants will be on display for the first time at this year's Chelsea Flower Show, although they will look no different from those with a more natural background.

The plants will contain "marker genes" — foreign DNA inserted into the plants to enable scientists to test whether the process of gene transferral is actually working.

Entitled *Mendel's Garden: Past, Present and Future*, the display is being exhibited by the John Innes Centre in Norwich and named after Gregor Mendel, the Austrian monk whose experiments with peas in the 1860s revealed the basic laws of genetic inheritance.

Ray Mathias, head of science communication and education at the institute, said: "We see the exhibit as a way of informing a wider audience about the science and what progress is being made."

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هكذا من الأصل

Grandma: nature's unique design to protect the family

By Ian Murray

Giles's Grandma: designed by evolution

SCIENTISTS have realised what parents have always known: that grandmothers are indispensable to bringing up baby. From Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother to Grandma, the stout old lady in black immortalised by the cartoonist Giles, grandmothers have been viewed with a mixture of affection and trepidation. Now their true worth has been recognised by a gerontologist at Manchester University. Thomas Kirkwood suggests that a "grandmother effect" explains the menopause, a condition unique to human beings.

Grandmothers are so essential to human society that natural selection supports women who stop having children of their own so they can become one, he told the Royal Society yesterday.

However, a similar evolutionary "grandfather effect" had not occurred, perhaps because women were always sure of their maternity while men could never be completely certain of their paternity, he said.

"Having children is risky and having a grandmother reduces the risk," Professor Kirkwood told a conference on ageing. "Grandmothers have experience and a valuable social role to play. At a certain point it becomes advantageous for a woman to maximise the chances of her own children's survival by ceasing to run the increasing risk of having any more of her own, thus becoming available to help to bring up her own grandchildren. This enhances the chances of her family survival."

The woman's pelvis prevented her child's brain growing fully until after birth, so the help and experience of the grandmother in bringing up the baby was crucial.

Professor Kirkwood said human beings lived longer than most other animals because of the way the brain had evolved to reduce perceived threats to life from the surrounding environment. In a similar way birds and bats had relatively long lifespans because their ability to fly reduced their risks.

Ageing was not inevitable, he said, but was a trade off for the ability to perpetuate the species by reproduction. Because humans had to expend some of the energy they absorbed in order to have children, they did not have enough left over to maintain the body indefinitely.

"Our genes back in the past evolved to regard our bodies as disposable," he said. The challenge for science was to find ways of improving the quality of life for the elderly so that they could enjoy old age without debilitating effects.

George Martin, of Washington State University in Seattle, said diet could prolong active life. Experiments on rats had shown that cutting their calorific intake by 40 per cent increased their life expectancy by a half.

However genetic changes down the centuries had had a greater effect on extending the life span. Studies of fit elderly people were beginning to discover "successful ageing genes." There was also evidence that some genes which were successful in early life became dangerous in later life. The genes which made a young man macho and capable of attracting women were the same genes responsible for the most virulent form of prostate cancer.

Civil War castle gains a victory for garden

SUDELEY Castle, in Gloucestershire, which dates from the 15th century, received the Garden of the Year award yesterday.

Sudeley was the home of Catherine Parr, the sixth wife of Henry VIII. She is buried in the chapel. Elizabeth I stayed there three times and Charles I slept there during the Civil War. In 1649 the castle was devastated by Cromwell.

The award, now in its thirteenth year, is given by Christie's and the Historic Houses Association to a garden recognised as outstanding for its horticultural and public interest. It was presented to Lady Ashcombe, who has run Sudeley since the death of her first husband in 1972, and to her son, Henry Dent-Brocklehurst. The presentation was by Christopher Balfour, chairman of Christie's Europe, and William Proby, of the association.

Mr Dent-Brocklehurst, a friend of Elizabeth Hurley and her boyfriend Hugh Grant, was accompanied yesterday by his girlfriend Lili Maltese, an American model. The couple plan to settle at Sudeley, where Mr Dent-Brocklehurst will run the estate.

The gardens, which combine ancient and modern, are largely the vision of two women — Emma Dent (née Brocklehurst), who inherited Sudeley with her husband in 1855, and Lady Ashcombe.

PETER NICHOLLS

Henry Dent-Brocklehurst and his girlfriend Lili Maltese at Sudeley yesterday

Workers in £150,000 fiddles will not be fired

By Paul Wilkinson

NEARLY 80 council workers caught fiddling almost £150,000 from their employer have escaped prosecution. One woman member of staff at Sheffield City Council claimed sickness and holiday pay while in prison. Many others fraudulently claimed housing benefit.

Sheffield is so short of cash that it is considering up to 100 redundancies. Peter Moore, the opposition Liberal Democrat leader on the Labour-controlled authority, said: "Honest council workers feel it is wrong that their jobs could be on the line through redundancy while people who have committed fraud keep their jobs."

An auditors' report disclosed in March that 79 workers were involved in the loss of more than £145,000. The council did not think the incidents were serious enough to warrant sacking, except in two cases involving £19,000 and £15,000.

Malcolm Newman, the city treasurer, said that the council had decided against prosecution on advice from the police, who had taken the view that if the frauds were not considered serious enough to warrant sacking, the Crown Prosecution Service was unlikely to prosecute.

A council spokesman said that a revised code of conduct for employees and a procedure for investigating theft, fraud and corruption had been implemented.

How to lose weight: stop fighting over women

By Nick Nuttall
Technology Correspondent

STONE AGE man resembled a weightlifter and was 12 per cent heavier than the average modern human being, a study has shown.

A team at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore analysed 163 fossils and bones dating from more than two million years ago. The findings, published in *Nature*, indicate that ancient man underwent large changes in body bulk.

John Kappleman of the University of Texas, also writing in *Nature*, says it is likely that ancient man had a bulkier body because so much of his time was spent competing for females.

Modern human beings weigh, on average, 58.7 kg. In the early Pleistocene, between 1.2 million and 1.8 million years ago, man's ancestors weighed about 61.8 kg. By the early late part of this period, between 100,000 and 150,000 years ago, he had an average weight of 67.7 kg.

The Baltimore study, led by Christopher Ruff, also studied fossils of Neanderthal man living between 36,000 and 75,000 years ago. He weighed an average of 76 kg, or nearly 30 per cent more than modern man.

Brain study shows why sleep keeps us sweet

By Our Technology Correspondent

SCIENTISTS may have unravelled why new parents and other people deprived of sleep become irritable and antisocial. Parts of the brain that deal with emotion and mood need more rest and so feel the lack of sleep more keenly, researchers believe.

The findings, by a team at the University of Liege, Belgium, have come from a study in which the brains of eight men were scanned while they were asleep. The scanner showed blood flow to the various parts of the brain.

The researchers found that some areas remained reasonably active during sleep while others became almost dormant. The most inactive regions were in the orbitofrontal and the anterior cingulate parts of the cortex. These are areas linked to emotion, behaviour and social interaction. Previous studies have shown that, when people are awake, these areas are among the most active.

Mircea Steriade, a neurophysiologist at Laval University, Quebec, says in *New Scientist*: "Perhaps those parts of the brain that are quite important during the waking state need more rest during sleep."

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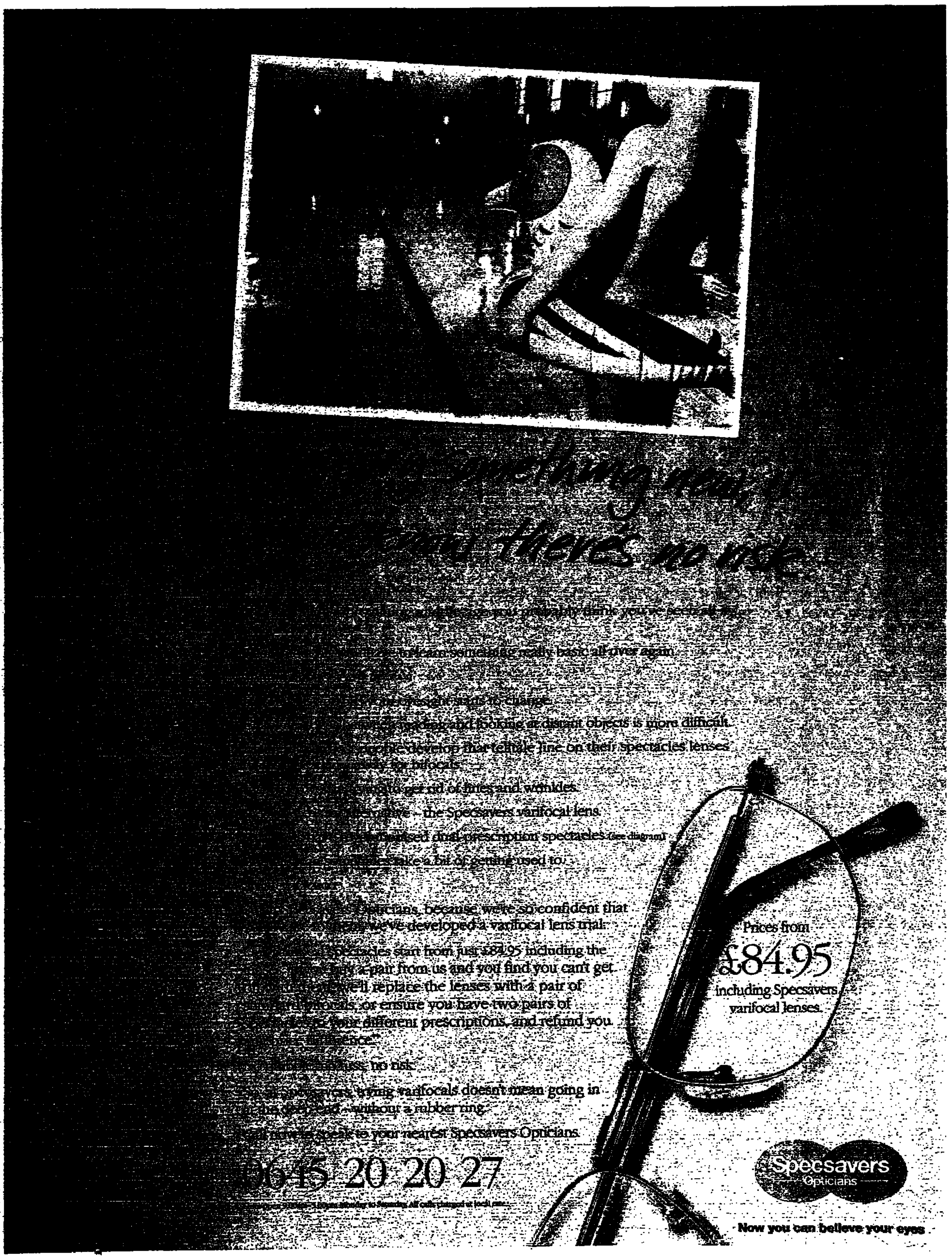

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Chambers matchmaker and an old friend answer Blair's call to take on senior positions in the law

Cupid, QC, will be at heart of legal reforms

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

THE new Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, was sworn in with tradition, pomp and ceremony at the Royal Courts of Justice yesterday.

Flanked by the Lord Chief Justice and Master of the Rolls in ceremonial dress, Lord Irvine, 56, a close friend of the Blairs, took the oaths of loyalty before a court packed with judges, lawyers, members of his chambers and family. With Court of Appeal judges in black and gold silk robes and the High Court judges in ermine and red, Lord Irvine — one of the most influential members of the Cabinet — promised to "be faithful and to bear true allegiance" to the Queen and her successors. He also promised to "do right to all manner of people after the laws and usages of this realm, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will".

Lord Irvine's salary of £140,005 makes him the highest-paid member of the Cabinet after the Prime Minister. Not only will he play a crucial role in the Government's constitutional reforms, but as a mentor of Mr Blair his influence will be more personal and far-reaching. Lord Irvine — Derry to his friends — has been a key figure in the Blairs' lives. They met when he took them on as pupils in 1976 at chambers in Crown Office Row, Temple, a year before he founded his own chambers in King's Bench Walk. At their wedding he proposed a toast to the couple, calling himself "Cupid, QC".

His new post makes him Speaker of the House of Lords, head of the judiciary and a minister with a large government department. No speeches were made at what was a strictly ceremonial occasion. Lord Irvine stood at the centre of the Bench between Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls. The other High Court heads of division, Sir Richard Scott and Sir Stephen Brown, were on either side.

The Lord Chancellor appoints every judge below the level of the Court of Appeal and his advice is usually sought by the Prime Minister on more senior appointments.

Lord Irvine is an advocate of incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into British law via a Bill of Rights. He will play the lead part in framing the Bill and in determining the extent of judges' powers. He will be active in the other constitutional reforms: devolution and reform of the House of Lords, where he favours abolishing hereditary peers' voting rights.

Lord Irvine was made a life peer in 1987 by Neil Kinnock after he successfully fought a series of High Court cases for Labour over ousting Militant Tendency supporters from the party. It was more than a reward for Militant-bashing: Mr Kinnock wanted more lawyer-peers and Lord Irvine was brought in as heir apparent to Lord Elwyn-Jones, had Labour won in 1987.

Like his predecessor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, he is a Scot — from the same part of the country, Sutherland — and from what he calls "good working-class stock": his mother was a waitress and his father a roof slater who was active in politics as a shop steward.

Unlike Lord Mackay, his career has been entirely at the English bar, which he entered late at 27 after lecturing at the London School of Economics. He rose swiftly, becoming a QC at 37; for a year, he was the youngest in the country. He has built up a lucrative commercial and public law practice.

Some predict that he will prove less radical than Lord Mackay in making changes to the profession. His reforming zeal is likely to be proven on the wider constitutional front.

The profession believes that he will listen to its concerns on legal aid and civil justice, which he has pledged to review. He has also promised to examine the earnings of the highest-paid QCs on legal aid. He once said that members of the legal profession were not the best candidates to bid for scarce public funds: "Lawyers don't appreciate how enormously unpopular they are."

Lord Irvine, right, with Lord Bingham at the Royal Courts of Justice ceremony yesterday

DES JENSON

Mr Falconer, his wife Marianna and children Rosie, six, Hamish, 11, Rocco, eight, and Johnny, four, with his father and stepmother yesterday

The silk who took a £440,000 cut

*The new Solicitor-General saw the opportunity after 23 years at the Bar as too good to miss, **Frances Gibb** writes*

CHARLES FALCONER, QC, the commercial silk appointed by Tony Blair to be Solicitor-General, will be giving up a lucrative commercial law practice worth an estimated £500,000 a year for a peerage and a £60,000 salary.

Mr Falconer, 45, admitted the offer had come as a complete surprise. He had not, he confessed, jumped at the chance initially. "I did take some persuading. But when I thought about it, the job is so exciting, especially at this time when we have a new Labour Government after 18 years and lots of changes happening. I have always been a Labour supporter and, having done law for 23 years, this seemed too good an opportunity to miss."

He agreed there would be a financial downside. "But money is not the most important thing and it seemed right I should give up my private practice at this point." Mr Falconer and his wife Marianna are two of the Blairs' closest friends as well as neighbours in Islington and, like the Blairs, are both barristers.

They are not, however, members of the Blairs' political circle: their connection is that of old friends who go back to Mr Blair's schooldays, as well as through their professional work. The Prime Minister made a speech at Mr Falconer's 40th birthday party and the couples dine frequently at each other's houses.

Yesterday speculation was rife as to whether Mr Falconer had agreed to try the job for a limited term only as a stepping stone to the more senior post of Attorney-General when John Morris, QC, retires; or even — in the much longer term — as an heir apparent to Lord Irvine, QC, the new Lord Chancellor. But Mr Falconer denies there was any promise of future jobs.

The consensus is that he will bring a breath of fresh air and charisma into the law officers' department. Peter Scott, QC, head of Mr Falconer's chambers at Fountain Court, said: "He is very popular at the Bar and many people will say what a nice person he is. He will present things clearly and fairly — and people will like him and trust him. He has a strong sense of responsibility."

A solicitor said: "The most striking thing about him is his charisma — he is amazingly good company and always in a way which demonstrates his cleverness. He is a very magnetic and compelling advocate, and entertaining both in and out of court."

A pop music buff — "he can tell you the flip side of a record that was number two in the charts in 1963" — he married Marianna Hildyard, daughter of the late diplomat Sir D.H.T. Hildyard in 1985. She is a family law barrister specialising in childcare law who does a mix of legal aid and private work. Her income is unlikely to come anywhere near that of her husband's. They have four children who are being educated privately at an estimated cost of £21,000 a year.

The Prime Minister regards Mr Falconer as one of the brightest brains in the legal profession. They met at a friend's house when Mr Blair was a schoolboy at Fettes College in Edinburgh. Mr Falconer went to Trinity College, Glenalmond, and then Queen's College, Cambridge. They kept in touch and shared a flat in Wandsworth, south London, in Mr Blair's bachelor days.

Mr Falconer was called to the Bar in 1974 and became a silk in 1991. His career has been entirely at the commercial bar. The Solicitor-General is usually expected to take the lead in some high-profile criminal cases but Mr Falconer would be unlikely do do so.

If his new career does not work out, he should be able to return to practice with ease. Rory McAlpine, a solicitor with the City firm Wilde Sapte, said: "He has a good track record and is well established enough that he could come back. He is now such a glittering name among City firms that he would not be forgotten overnight."

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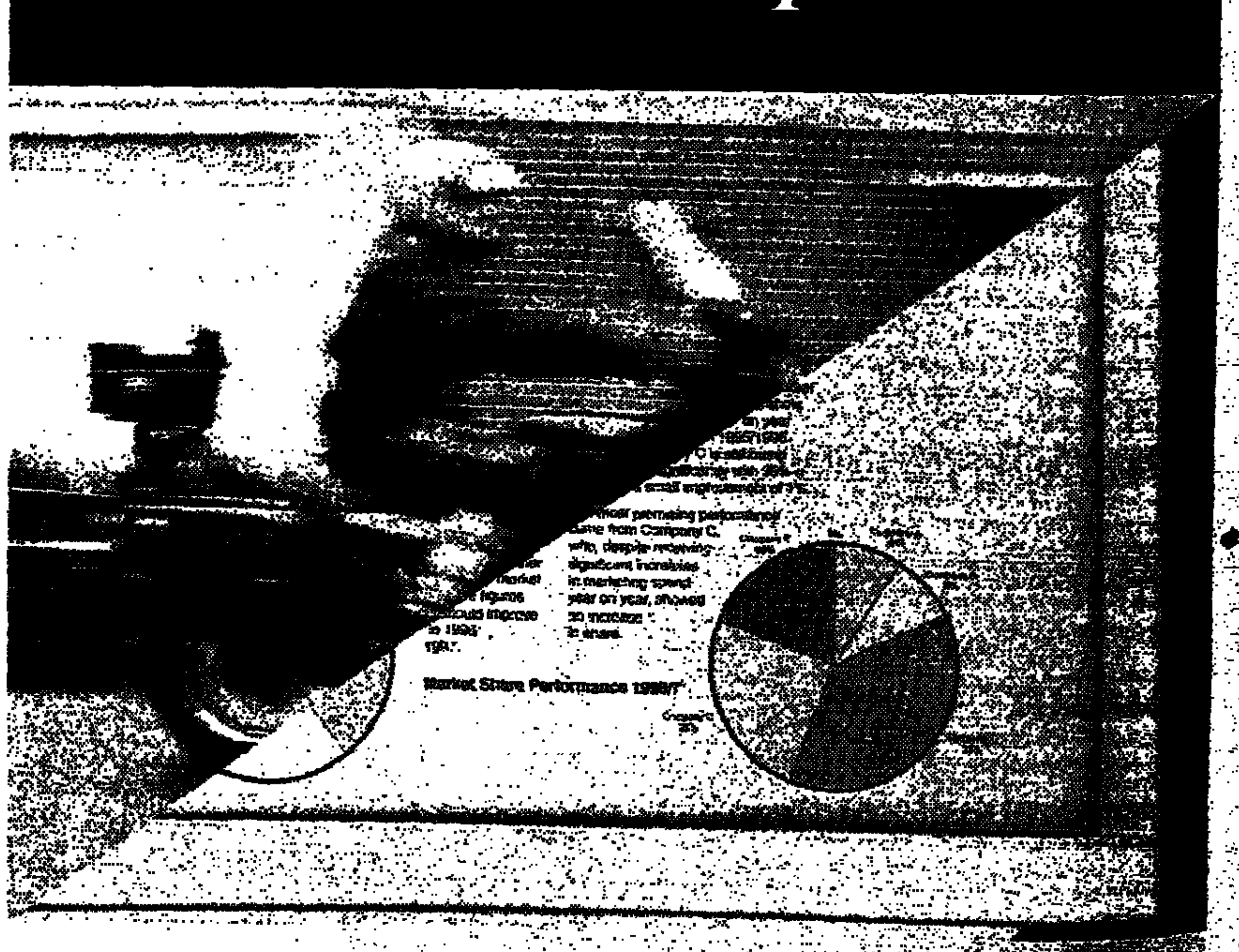

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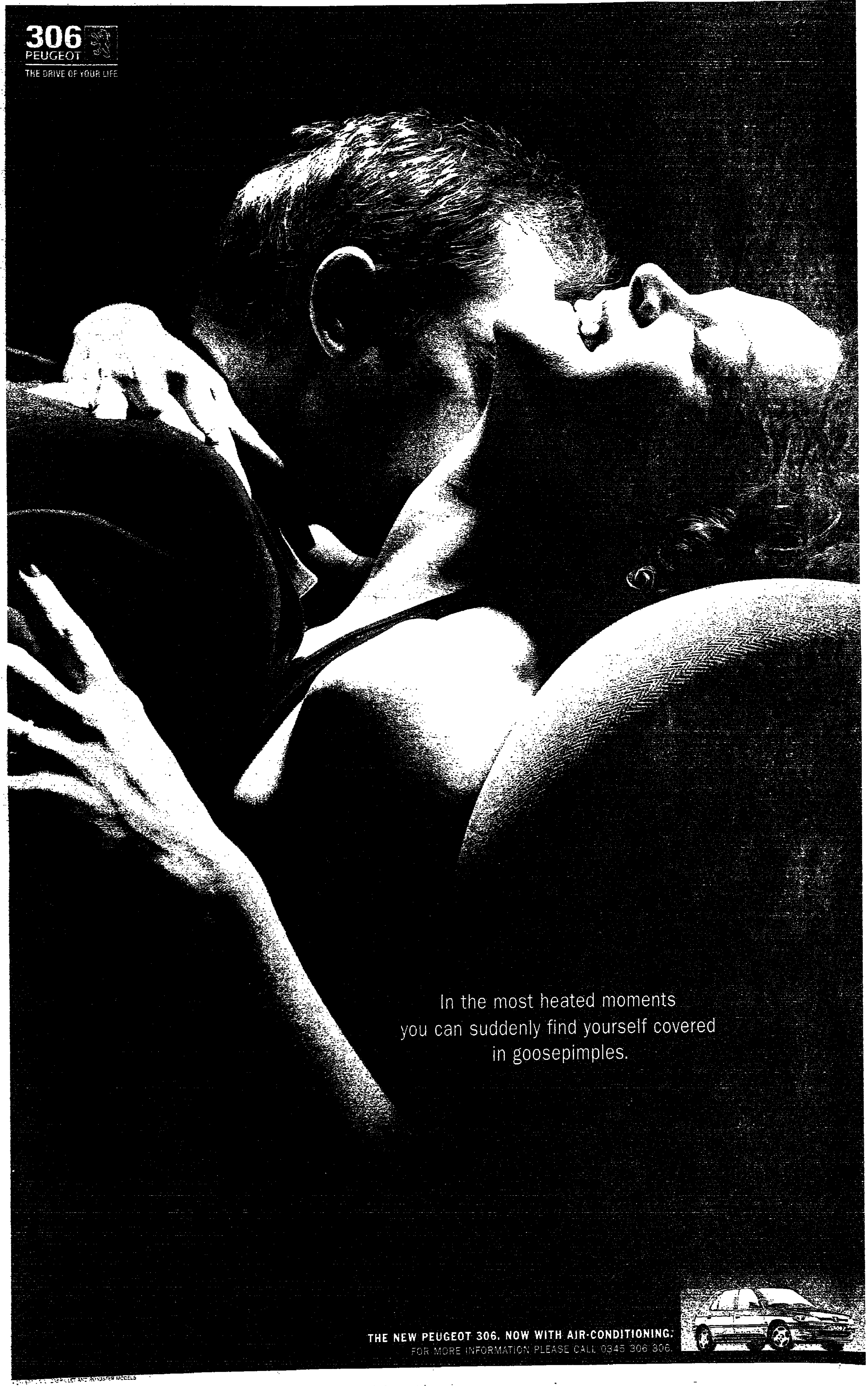
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Who's who in Labour's new force

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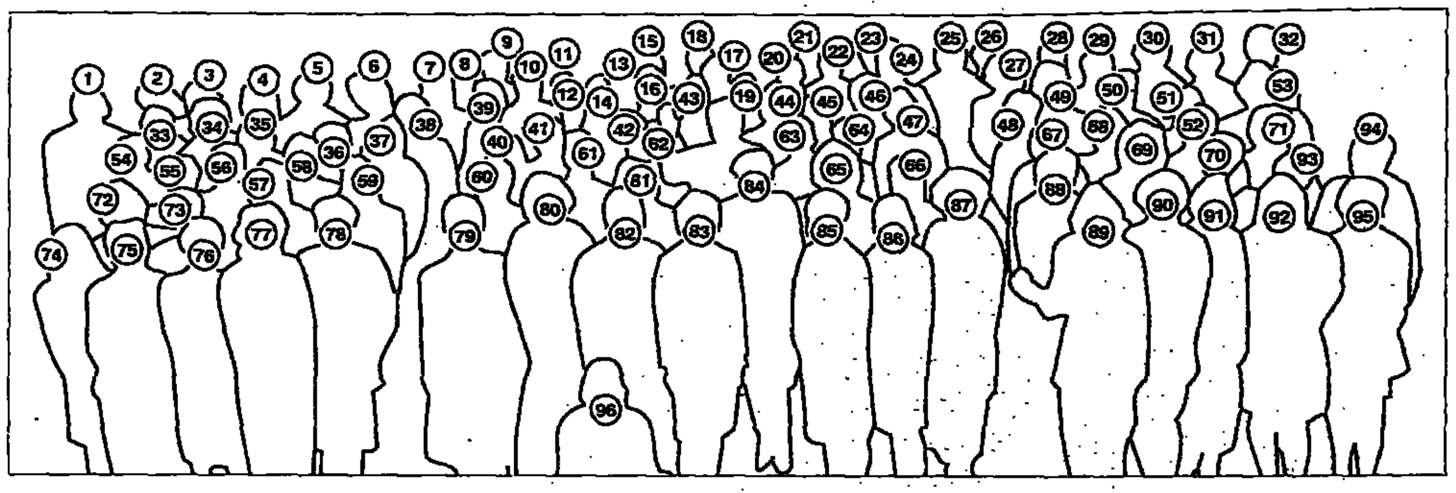
30 Llin Golding; 31 Rosa Wintertoon; 32 Ann Cryer; 33 Ann Keen; 34 Audrey Wise; 35 Yvette Cooper; 36 Diana Organ; 37 Candy *Atherton; 38 Joyce Quin*; 39 Angela Eagle; 40 Angela Smith; 41 Eileen Gordon; 42 Christine Butler; 43 Oona King; 44 Harriet Harman; 45 Barbara Roche; 46 Judy Mallaber; 47 Siobhain *McDonagh; 48 Louise Ellman*; 49 Joan Humble; 50 Laura Moffat; 51 Karen Buck; 52 Sylvia Heal; 53 Rosemary McKenna; 54 Maria Fyfe; 55 Irene Adams; 56 Jean Corston; 57 *Melanie Johnson; 58 Joan Ryan*; 59 Julia Drown.

60 Phyllis Starkey; 61 Helen Jones; 62 Helen Southworth; 63 Geraldine Smith; 64 Hazel Blears; 65 Fiona *Jones; 66 Margaret Moran; 67 Christine Russell*; 68 Janet Dean; 69 Kali Mountford; 70 Dari Taylor; 71 Ann McGuire; 72 Jenny Jones; 73 Rachel *Squire*; 74 Barbara Follett; 75 Dawn Primarolo; 76 Patricia Hewitt; 77 Caroline Flint; 78 Jacqui Smith; 79 Gisela Stuart.

80 Jane Griffiths; 81 Anne Campbell; *82 Linda Perham; 83 Margaret* Beckett; 84 Ann Taylor; 85 Charlotte Atkins; 86 Sally Keeble; 87 Gillian Merron; 88 Elizabeth Blackman; 89 Shona McIsaac; 90 Beverly Hughes; *91 Helen Jackson; 92 Claire Ward*; 93 Sandra Osborne; 94 Margaret Hodge; 95 Lorna Fitzsimons; 96 Anne Begg.

The following Labour women MPs *were absent: Kate Hoey; Clare Short*; Glenda Jackson; Lynne Jones; Julie Morgan.



Blair salutes 101 women

By James Landale
and Gillian Bowditch

TONY BLAIR *showed off his* new army of women MPs yesterday outside Church House in Westminster after speaking to them and their male colleagues at the first meeting of the new Parliamentary Labour Party.

In all 96 of Labour's 101 women MPs posed for an historic photograph with the Prime Minister.

The Tories have just 13 women on the Opposition benches. But they and women *from other parties bring the* total in the Commons to 120, compared with 63 in the last Parliament. They comprise 18 per cent of the 659 MPs.

Many of the Labour women benefited from the party's *women-only shortlists* policy before it was ruled illegal a 18 months ago. But many others have been selected since then entirely on their own merits.

The new influx of women hope to bring a new consensual style of politics to Westminster, which they see as still being dominated by a male, confrontational approach.

While congratulating Betty Boothroyd on her re-election as *Speaker*, Mr Blair *said*: "I am delighted that the lead that you demonstrated five years ago in becoming the first woman Speaker has brought *us to a point today where there* are more women than ever *before sitting in this House.*"

One woman has made her own mark on history by becoming the first MP to use a wheelchair in the Chamber. Anne Begg, 41, a former Disabled Scot of the Year, beat the former Scottish Office minister Raymond Robertson to take Aberdeen South.

Miss Begg, 41, has been confined to a wheelchair for 13 years after contracting Gaucher's cell disease, a bone-softening condition.

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Shephard joins Lilley's campaign as the battle to succeed Major gathers momentum

Tycoon who saved Tories backs Hague for leader

BY ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE millionaire carpet tycoon who saved the Conservative Party from financial ruin was identified last night as a key backer of William Hague's leadership campaign.

Lord Harris of Peckham is regarded as the best fundraiser the Tories have had, having been credited with wiping out a £16 million deficit in less than three years. It is not clear how much support he has pledged to Mr Hague, but each of the six leadership bids is expected to cost more than £10,000 in rent, office, and telephone calls for the six-week duration.

Lord Harris has told friends he has no intention of publicly endorsing any of the candidates.

Six telephone lines were installed yesterday in Mr Hague's campaign headquarters in the private St James's office of the Tory MP Jonathan Sayeed. John Redwood, one of his principal rivals for the leadership, lives next door.

Peter Lilley's campaign was boosted yesterday by being backed by Gillian Shephard, former Education and Employment Secretary, who at one stage was spoken of as a candidate. She would be his deputy leader, a partnership that Tory MPs are referring to as the "Lilley and Gilly" show.

Mrs Shephard said she supported Mr Lilley, the former Social Security Secretary, because of his "clarity of intellect", formidable knowledge of economics and "social compassion". Mr Lilley said that Mrs Shephard would be his John Prescott.

Mr Lilley, who will reveal his choice of campaign headquarters in the next few days, is also supported by Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare. The campaign is being run by Eric Forth, the Eurosceptic former minister, and the influential right-wingers David Willetts and John Whittingdale.

There appeared to be stirrings of life yesterday in Kenneth Clarke's campaign, which is the only one not to have been publicly launched. John Gummer, the former Environment Secretary, will be a campaign manager in the former Chancellor's team.

Some friends of Mr Clarke admitted yesterday that so far their efforts had been hit and miss, verging on the shambolic. "Ken thinks everyone has gone off too quick. The final ballot will not be for at least five to six weeks. There is plenty of time yet," one aide said.

Mr Hague and Mr Redwood have both had a flying start in terms of organisation. The Tory MP Alan Duncan, whose Westminster home was the campaign headquarters for John Major's successful leadership contest in 1990, is a key figure behind the scenes for Mr Hague.

Mr Redwood's campaign is being co-ordinated from the offices of his Conservative 2000 Foundation in Westminster. The foundation, which has an administrative secretariat, is backed by wealthy but anonymous Tories who support Mr Redwood's populist right-wing agenda. The foundation has a detailed database on each one of the new Tory MPs. It has also forged strong links with Tory grassroot activists.

By contrast Stephen Dorrell's campaign headquarters are based, temporarily at least, at the Belgravia home of David Faber, the Tory MP for Westbury, who is his campaign manager. By yesterday evening there was only Mr Faber's own personal telephone line into the house.

Mr Dorrell had the public support of only one other MP: Simon Burns, the former Junior Health Minister. Gyles Brandreth, who lost his seat last week, and Graham Mather, a Tory MEP, turned out to give moral support. Several offers of funding have already been made to the former Health Secretary, but his aides declined to disclose their source.

The Michael Howard campaign is also well-organised. Mr Howard, whose leadership challenge was unveiled under the watchful eye of the industrialist Lord Hanson, will also have strong financial backing if it is required. The Tory MPs Sir Michael Spicer and Tim Collins are running the campaign. Francis Maude, the former minister, is also a key backer.

Peter Lilley, whose candidacy was boosted by Gillian Shephard, his deputy on the "Lilley and Gilly" ticket

Backbenchers set poll date

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

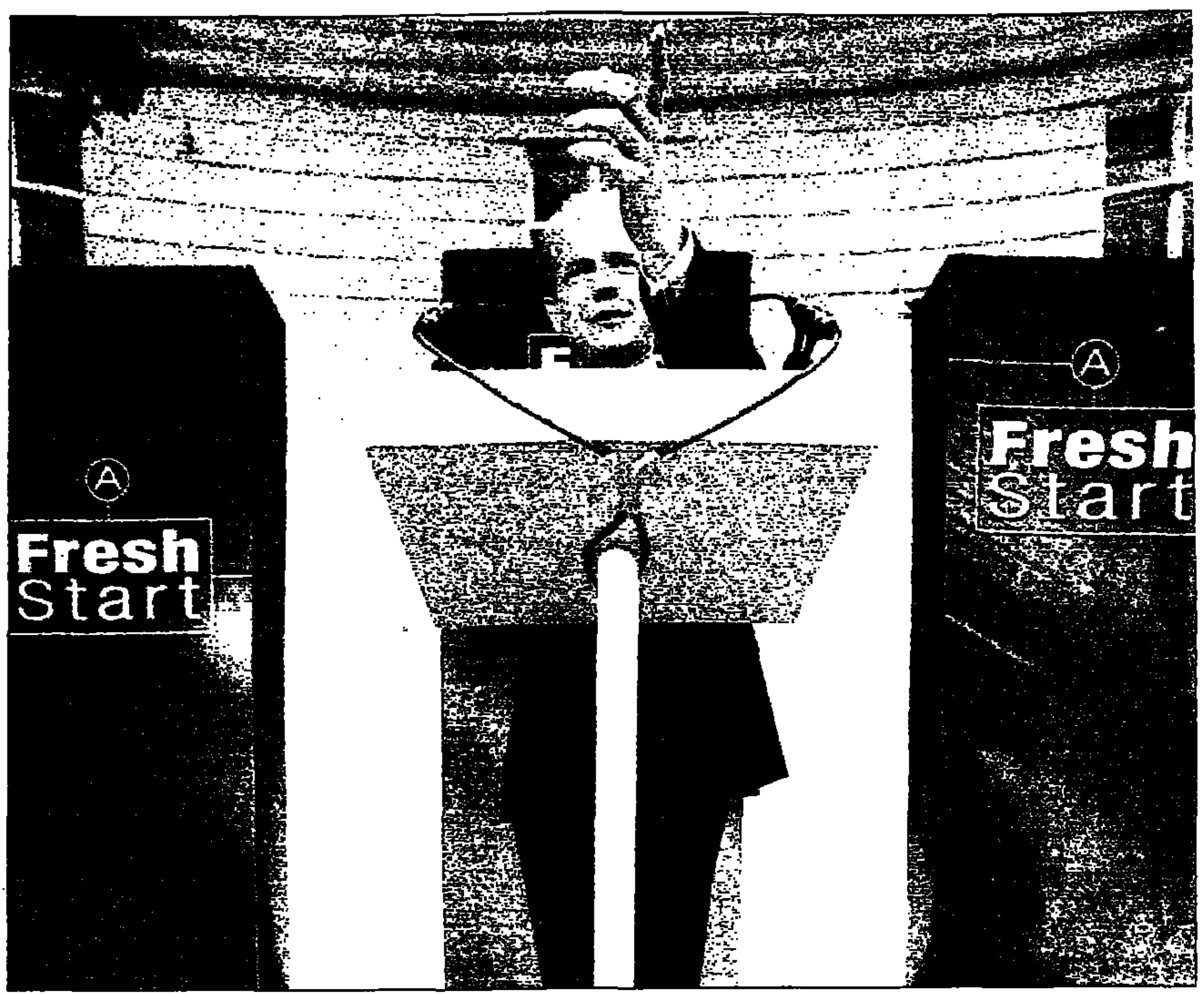
SENIOR Tory MPs yesterday set the timetable for backbench elections to precede the leadership contest.

May 21 will be the date for electing the chairman and executive members of the 1922 Committee, and the leadership vote is expected less than three weeks later.

The election of the chairman, five other executive officers and 12 executive members will indicate the political balance of the party.

The date of the leadership election, which Tory rules dictate should begin on a Tuesday, depends in part on the length of recess ordered by Tony Blair at the end of May. A short Whitsun break in the week of May 26 will allow leadership contenders the opportunity to stage the first round of the election the following week, on June 3. A second ballot would be held on Thursday, June 5, with a third, if necessary, on June 10. If Mr Blair holds to the tradition of a week-long Whitsun break, the leadership election may be delayed to June 10.

John MacGregor, a former Cabinet minister, Sir Archibald Hamilton, another former minister, and John Butterfill have made it clear they will stand for the 1922 chairmanship.



William Hague declaring his candidacy yesterday in front of a purple backdrop prepared only the night before

Young pretender shows his colours

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

WILLIAM HAGUE, announcing his campaign for the leadership of the Tory party yesterday, said that his political heroes were Margaret Thatcher and John Major. "And Peter Mandelson," muttered one member of his audience.

Anyone wandering into the room might have been mistaken for thinking that they had encountered an aspirant for the Labour leadership — perhaps a high-flyer among the Millbank Tendency. Mr Hague, the bookies' favourite for the Tory crown, chose to declare his hand in the airy, sun-filled Atrium restaurant, not far from Labour's election campaign headquarters.

"Ladies and gentlemen — William Hague," announced a sidekick, and the former Welsh Secretary strode purposefully onto a specially constructed platform. Mr Hague's rivals have tended to announce their leadership bids from a sedentary position, behind tables. Here was Mr Hague standing behind a White House-style lectern with an illuminated set that declared: "A Fresh Start." The slick presentation prompted suggestions that his campaign must have been planned long before Tuesday morning when he broke off a deal with Michael Howard to be the former Home Secretary's running-mate for the leadership.

"I have an amazing team," explained Mr Hague. Later, his aides gave details of the astonishing overnight exertions of a design agency. The printers were happy to detail a "very fast photographic process which is new on the market".

Equally striking was the imperial purple of said backdrop, a colour, that Tony Blair's team appropriated for the last week of the general election campaign. The resonances of Labour press conferences became overwhelming when Mr Hague spoke earnestly of reforming his party and concluded, of the opposition: "We have a great deal to learn from them in communicating through the modern media."

Mr Hague's bald pate, which gleamed in the sunshine, adds years to his youthfully elfin features. He brushed aside suggestions that at 36 he was too young for the job: "By my age William Pitt was nearly on his deathbed," he pointed out.

Certainly, Stephen Dorrell did not outdo Mr Hague for gravitas. The former Health Secretary finally announced yesterday that yes, he was a contender for the Tory leadership. He did so from a friend's doorstep, accompanied by David Faber, the MP from whose Belgravia house his campaign is operating, and such Tory luminaries as the ex-television presenter and now ex-MP Gyles Brandreth.

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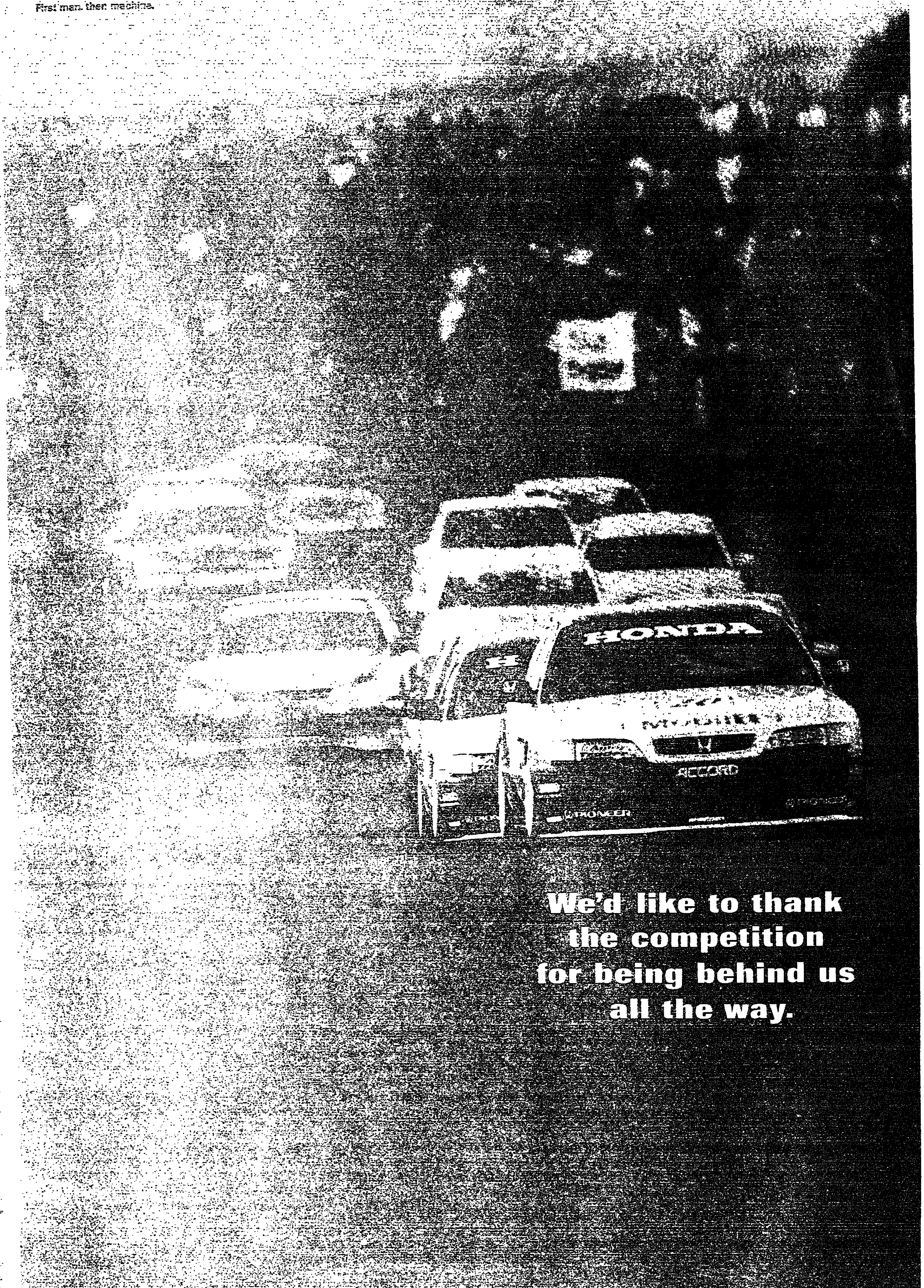
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Bosnian Serb found guilty of crimes against humanity

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN THE HAGUE

IN A landmark ruling a year to the day after its conception, the first international war crimes trial since the end of the Second World War found Dusan Tadic, a 41-year-old Bosnian Serb, guilty of crimes against humanity on 11 counts of persecution and beatings.

The charges include torture and the 1992 killing of two Muslim policemen in the Prijedor district of northwest Bosnia. However, Tadic was cleared on a further 20 counts, including nine of murder and 11 of "grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva Conventions".

Judge Richard Goldstone, formerly Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, said: "I feel very satisfied that no question can be raised as to the fairness of the trial ... There is the feeling it is a historic day; the first time in 50 years an international court has found someone guilty of crimes against humanity."

Tadic, a former café proprietor and a part-time karate instructor, stood briefly for the verdict, his angular features impassive bar an occasional flicker of the eyebrows. Sentencing will be on July 1, pending possible prosecution and defence appeals.

He had denied every charge throughout, claiming that he was the victim of mistaken identity and an international plot seeking Serb scapegoats for the war in Bosnia. Although the court totally dismissed his often vague alibis, finding him "untruthful" as to his whereabouts, Nikola Kostic, for the defence, said immediately after the verdicts that there would be an appeal on all counts, based on new alibi evidence.

The prosecution appeared equally determined to appeal. Among the trial's most contentious aspects was the failure of two of the three-strong panel of judges to agree that the persecution, killing and torture of Muslims and Croats in and around Prijedor in 1992 was part of a conflict of an international nature by which Bosnian Serb troops acted on the behest of Serbia. As a result, 11 counts against Tadic had to be dropped, as they were deemed non-applicable as breaches of the Geneva convention because they referred to victims of an ethnic, rather than an international, conflict.

Goldstone: satisfied as to trial's fairness

The presiding Judge, Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, dissented from that opinion, finding that the Bosnian Serb Army "clearly continued to operate as an integrated and instrumental part of the Serbian war effort". Her view gave the prosecution ground to launch notice of its appeal to challenge the legal standards used to define the protection status of the Geneva Convention.

Although, regarding the case itself, prosecution lawyers will be disappointed that the most serious charges failed, the trial was welcomed by supporters of the tribunal system as having fulfilled its primary aim — that of justice.

"Although this is the first trial conducted by the international tribunal and thus has some historic dimension the goal of the trial chamber was always, first and foremost, to provide the accused with the fair trial to which he is entitled," said Judge McDonald, giving the verdict.

Indeed the trial seemed to strive so hard to accommodate Tadic's defence that some conclusions appeared unduly pedantic. Among the charges that caused the most revulsion was one claiming Tadic had been among a group of Serbs who in 1992 forced a Muslim prisoner in the Omarska camp to bite off another Muslim prisoner's testicles. Both died, one as a result of his wound, the other, with two more prisoners, after a subsequent, protracted beating. The court was satisfied that Tadic was present, but could not agree whether the four died as a direct result of that torture session.

Despite the judges' disagreement over Serbia's involvement in the Bosnia war, their finding Tadic guilty of persecution represented the first judicial condemnation of the Bosnian Serbs' "ethnic cleansing policy".

Identified by his nickname "Dusko" time and time again in the courtroom by those former friends and colleagues who in 1992 became his victims, Tadic is small but nevertheless symbolic fry in the tribunal's efforts to fight international lethargy and bring Bosnia's predominantly Serb war criminals to justice.

The first to be handed over to The Hague — he has spent two years in jail — Tadic is one of only eight in custody out of 75 indicted war criminals.

Geoffrey Robertson, page 20

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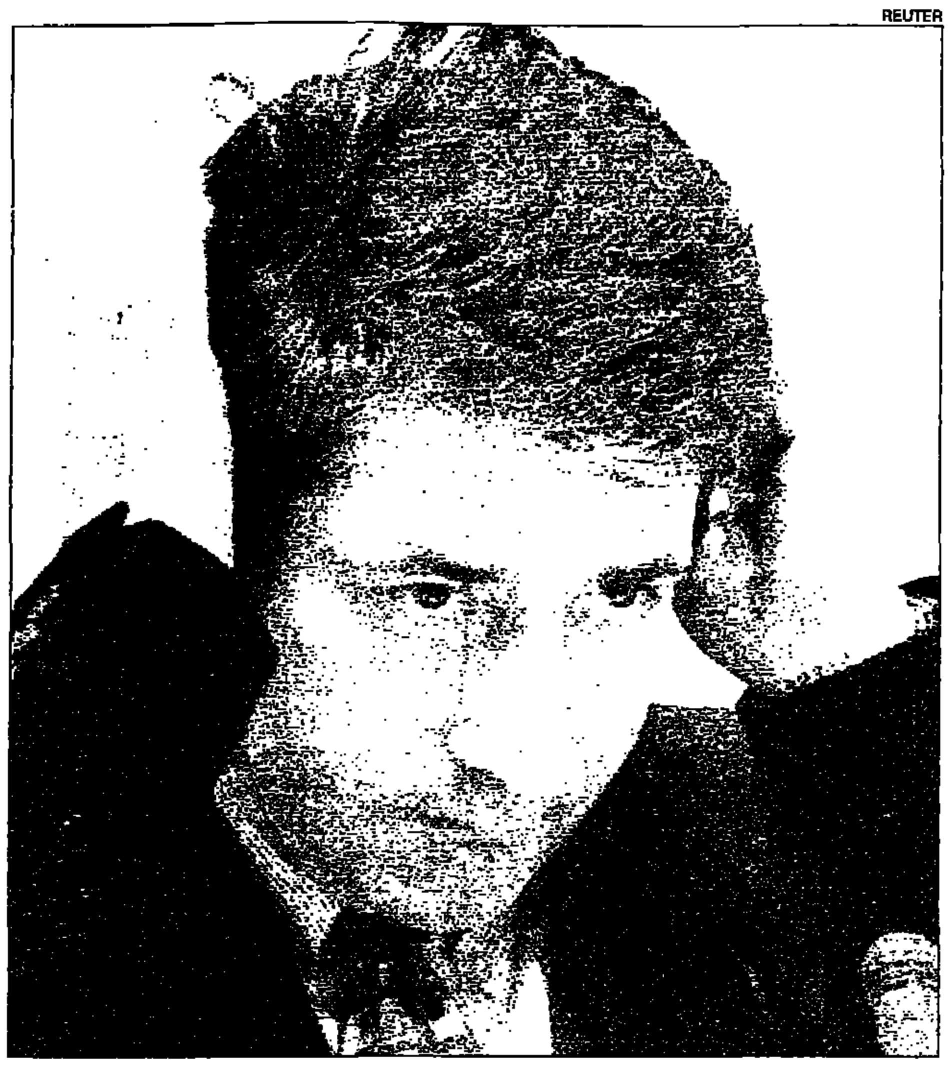

Dusan Tadic adjusts his earphones during his trial which ended yesterday with a mix of guilty and not-guilty verdicts. Both prosecution and defence may appeal

Sarajevo regrets failure to convict on murder charges

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN SARAJEVO

THE Bosnian Government yesterday expressed disappointment that the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal had acquitted Dusan Tadic, who was found guilty of crimes against humanity and torture, on 13 counts of murdering Muslim prisoners.

"Generally we are disappointed that not all of the charges were accepted, but we are hoping that the punishment will be appropriate with the crimes committed," Mirza Hajric, spokesman for Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian President, said.

Nevertheless, human rights campaigners hailed the judgment against Tadic. "The verdict represents an important benchmark for holding individuals accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity accountable under law," the US-based Human Rights Watch said.

Mr Hajric added: "The verdict that Tadic is guilty of crimes against humanity is a confirmation of the accusations of the Bosnian Government that the Serb leadership, led by [former leader Radovan] Karadzic and [military commander General Ratko] Mladic, had organised and been engaged in genocide."

Mladic faces charges but remains at large

Both Dr Karadzic and General Mladic have been indicted on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity, but remain at large.

The Bosnian Serb News Agency, meanwhile, said the verdict showed Tadic's theoretical guilt as it was not based on solid proof. It said the tribunal was faced with losing its credibility if it convicted Tadic on all counts and stripping itself of its political raison d'être if it acquitted him.

Tadic's brother, Mladen, said his brother was innocent. He said: "It is inconceivable that Dusko [his nickname] was found guilty when he *never took part in the war.*"

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Crowds taunt Zaire dictator with cries of 'President Kabila' as he heads for summit

Mobutu departure brings hope of new Kinshasa regime

From Sam Kiley in Kinshasa

PRESIDENT Mobutu left Zaire for a regional summit with fellow French-speaking presidents yesterday, fuelling hopes that he would not return to the country he has ruled for 32 years.

English-speaking diplomats and envoys said yesterday that they suspected that Mr Mobutu, 66, would use the visit to the summit as a ruse to slip out of Zaire into retirement in Morocco or France, where he owns several palatial homes.

Members of his family, however, including Mobutu Manda, his son and chief adviser, said yesterday that he would return to Zaire after the meeting with the Presidents of Togo, the Central African Republic, Gabon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea and Congo. One Mobutu family source said: "He will ask them to help defend Kinshasa against the rebels with arms and men."

Mr Mobutu left Kinshasa in his black stretch Cadillac to jeers from the roadside. "President Kabila, President Kabila," chanted small crowds who saw his convoy bumping and lurching over potholes and splashing through puddles.

Young men raised two fingers in a victory salute to Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader who said on Monday that he would take the capital in "two or three days".

Some members of Mr Mobutu's administration were making plans to flee Kinshasa; others had already sneaked away. General Baramoto Kpama, who was dismissed as head of the civil guard in January, fled to South Africa with other noted members of the "Binza group". Mr Mobutu's clique of friends who, like their President, plundered Zaire's vast natural resources while the country collapsed.

Tambwe Mbaya, an unemployed labourer, said: "We do not know if Mobutu is going to come back. All we want is peace and development in this country. We have had him for 32 years and he has done nothing but send us back into the dark ages. He just causes trouble. He should stay out of the country." His remarks drew cheers from a small crowd eagerly reading newspapers displayed along a wall.

"Mobutu out: Kabila coming" the headlines of some newspapers said. Others said that at a meeting of French-speaking dictators in Libreville, Gabon, it was likely that Mr Mobutu would be given a sympathetic hearing to requests for troops. A diplomat said: "There clearly is going to be a lot of nervousness in Libreville. People like (Omar) Bongo (President of Gabon) will not like Mobutu being pushed out because they are not very secure in their own positions."

As he spoke, gunshots rang out across the Congo River. They were fired by troops in neighbouring Brazzaville who were shooting in the air to dispel striking workers from marching around the parliament buildings.

Letters, page 21

ABDELHAK SENNA / EPA

Repatriation of Hutu refugees to Kisangani starts again after being suspended when 91 died in an overcrowded train

Death sentence upheld

From Agence France-Presse in Kigali

COURTS in Rwanda upheld death sentences against three people accused of genocide and crimes against humanity and pronounced the death penalty on 11 more people, the country's official radio reported yesterday.

The radio said that a court of appeal in Nyabisindu, in the southern Butare prefecture, on Monday had upheld death sentences against three men charged with genocide and other crimes against humanity committed in 1994.

Seven other people were sentenced to death in Gikongoro prefecture, also in the south, and another four suspects in the western Gisenyi prefecture. Two other people were sentenced to 20 years in jail and three others given three-year prison terms.

Approximately 100,000 Hutus are awaiting trial on charges of participating in the massacre of more than half a million Tutsis.

Ex-minister takes blame for killings by apartheid troops

From Ray Kennedy in Johannesburg

GENERAL Magnus Malan, the former South African Defence Minister, declared yesterday that he accepted full moral responsibility for actions taken by troops under his control, including raids into neighbouring states when innocent civilians were killed.

Appearing at a hearing of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Cape Town, he commended the African National Congress for deciding that its national leadership between 1961 and 1994 would assume responsibility for the actions of its Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) guerrillas, even when they had stepped out of line. It was regrettable, he said, that his former National Party Cabinet colleagues, particularly P. W. Botha, the former President, were not doing the same.

General Malan was acquitted in October on charges of murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to murder arising from the massacre of 13 men, women and children in a village in KwaZulu in 1987. He said yesterday that he regretted the killing of innocent people in raids carried out by South African troops but that war was an ugly business. He said that as a Cabinet minister he had agreed to the establishment of the Civilian Co-Operation Bureau, the covert body set up by the security forces to eliminate opponents of the apartheid Government. But he claimed that he had never ordered assassinations.

He had attended meetings of the State Security Council, an inner-Cabinet committee set up by Mr Botha, when plans to launch a "third force" were discussed, but he insisted that it was never formed.

General Malan was Minister of Defence from 1980 to 1991 when the ANC threatened to break off constitutional talks unless he and Adriaan Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, were dismissed from the Cabinet. Between 1976 and 1980 he was chief of the defence force.

He told the Commission yesterday that he would consider applying for amnesty from prosecution for apartheid-era human rights abuses. The deadline for amnesty applications expires on Saturday. The Commission has granted amnesty to 39 people and rejected 797 applications.

☐ **Durban:** Children who were victims of a decade-long turf war in KwaZulu/Natal province will tell their stories at Commission hearings here next week. *(Reuter)*

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Cook pledges co-operation with Europe

Sterile confrontation consigned to the 'Conservative past'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND ROGER BOYES IN BONN

ON HIS inaugural trip abroad as Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook flew to Paris and Bonn yesterday where he proclaimed that a new era in Britain's relations with the rest of Europe, based on active co-operation rather than sterile confrontation, had dawned.

As a symbol of what he pledged would be the Government's constructive approach to negotiating in Europe, Mr Cook announced an agreement with France and Germany to seek a worldwide ban on landmines.

In France, Mr Cook was received with all the pomp one would expect for the representative of a new, more Euro-friendly Government promising to put an end to divisions between the two countries.

With France in the grip of its own, hotly contested election, Mr Cook was fêted first by the the Socialist opposition and then by the Government, both equally anxious to attract some of Labour's reflected electoral glory.

Mr Cook said he hoped his visit to France would mark a fresh start in Anglo-French relations. "Britain wants to be one of the three major players in Europe," he added.

The new British Government "will draw a line under the sterile, negative and fruitless confrontation which was the policy of the previous Government", Mr Cook said. "We want to see Britain be one of the three leading members of the EU, working together to achieve an outcome in the interests of all our peoples." Later, he expressed the same sentiment word for word in Bonn.

In Paris, the Foreign Secretary said that Britain would stand firm on matters of vital national interest such as "preserving our external border controls against third countries", but added: "We believe we can better secure those British vital interests if we are not fighting the rest of Europe on every issue, as the Conservatives did out of prejudice.

"I am confident that we can achieve more working together than competing against each other, or shouting against each other, as under the previous Government."

The first stop on his one-day tour was for a private meeting with Lionel Jospin, leader of the French Socialist Party, which, polls suggest, is steadily gaining ground on the ruling centre-right coalition in the run-up to the election which will take place in two rounds, on May 25 and June 1.

The Foreign Secretary emphasised Labour's good relations with the French Socialists, but said Britain would work closely with whichever party was in power after the election.

M Jospin called Tony Blair's victory "a good thing for the British people but also a good thing for Europe" and described Labour and the Socialists as "sister parties".

At the Foreign Ministry in the Quai d'Orsay, Mr Cook was accorded the full five-star diplomatic treatment: a reception by the Republican Guard resplendent in their blue uniforms and flashing sabres, as well as red carpets and lunch with his opposite number, Hervé de Charette.

A ministry official said that a full honour guard was not usual for a working lunch; nor were red carpets in the pouring rain. The Government had decided to mark Mr Cook's first visit with special fanfare, he said.

After their lunch, Mr Cook and M de Charette gave a joint press conference in the marbled grandeur of the Quai d'Orsay lobby. When asked why it was that both sides in the French election should be so keen to adopt the mantle of "Le Blairisme", Mr Cook said: "Everybody wants to be Tony Blair at the moment. That is a tribute to Tony Blair. But it is up to the people of France who they elect."

The landmine agreement, committing all three countries to push for a complete ban, was intended as concrete evidence of the new working relationship between Britain, France and Germany.

Mr Cook also promised a creative British approach to next month's European Union summit in Amsterdam. "We want to go to the conference helping to set the direction and not, as the previous Government would have done, merely responding to the proposals of others."

In Bonn too, Mr Cook was not shy about stating the limits to Britain's new friendship with continental Europe. When Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said that "above all we need a common European currency", Mr Cook made plain that the British Government was concentrating on other economic priorities. On European economic and monetary union, the Foreign Secretary said: "A hard-headed assessment will be made towards the end of the year."

Mr Cook emphasised to the Germans in turn his commitment to a deal in Amsterdam where European Union states will try to modify the Maastricht treaty and further develop European institutions. "It is our intention to reach an agreement at the inter-governmental conference," he said. "We go to Amsterdam not with the intention of blocking an agreement. There are many areas where I am confident we can reach an agreement.

"The outcome would be a 'package' good for Britain, good for Germany and good for Europe."

PASCAL GUYOT / REUTER

Robin Cook addresses a news conference in Paris yesterday with Lionel Jospin, the French Socialist leader

New team to take tougher stance on human rights

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

Abacha: likely to face tough line from London

ROBIN COOK has told the Foreign Office that the Government will take a much tougher line than the Conservatives on arms exports, and may halt all weapons deliveries to countries with dubious human rights records, such as Indonesia.

The Foreign Secretary has also instructed diplomats to start urgent discussions with Britain's partners on a worldwide ban on the manufacture and export of landmines. Yesterday Britain made clear that it would join French and German initiatives in banning the use of all anti-personnel mines — a step the past Conservative Government was reluctant to take. Guidelines will outline new Foreign Office priorities intended to give much greater emphasis to human rights in Britain's dealing with other countries. In opposition Labour called for an oil embargo against Nigeria, and is expected to take a tough stand against General Sani Abacha's military Government in the run-up to the Edinburgh Commonwealth summit in the autumn.

The aim will be to set out Labour's foreign policy principles and priorities. These will emphasise key themes which were trailed in the election manifesto: an effort to engage Britain's European Union partners in a more co-operative relationship, greater emphasis on human rights, more attention to the global environment and policies supporting Britain's commitments at the Rio earth summit, and a new emphasis on arms control.

Labour will also insist that the Foreign Office does more to promote British trade and commercial interests. Mr Cook is to tell Foreign Office staff that they must do more to persuade public opinion that their work directly benefits Britain and British exports. He will make this message clear to all British ambassadors around the world in a video.

Since the new Government took office, Mr Cook has been involved in intensive briefing sessions, mapping out his policies to his senior staff. He will also try to change the elitist image of the diplomatic service, looking for new ways to boost the recruitment of women and ethnic minorities, who are currently very poorly represented.

Next week the new Foreign Office team will begin one of the most hectic years in British diplomacy. Mr Cook will see Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, today and travels to Paris on Monday for a meeting of the Western European Union, and then will have an intensive session of European consultations before the informal special EU summit on May 23, intended to introduce the Blair Government to Britain's EU partners.

Later this month there will probably be a summit between Russia and Nato in Paris, followed by a North Atlantic Council meeting in Portugal. The EU Amsterdam summit begins on June 16, the Group of Seven will meet in Denver four days later, and at the end of June there will be a UN environmnent session in New York. Mr Cook will fly to Hong Kong at the end of June for the handover to China, and return for the Nato enlargement summit in Madrid in July. His diary for the rest of the year is just as full, and next year, when Britain takes over the EU presidency, it will be even busier.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Buddhist jailed by Chinese

Beijing: A Tibetan monk has been jailed for six years for colluding with the Dalai Lama in the hunt for the reincarnation of the tenth Panchen Lama, Buddhism's second most senior leader, who died in 1989. The Chinese authorities named their own choice.

China's official Xinhua news agency said a court in Xigaze prefecture had convicted Qazha Qamba Chilai for trying to split the country and leaking state secrets after a trial in camera. *(Reuter)*

Russian envoy leaving early

Anatoli Adamishin, 62, Russia's ambassador to London, is returning home early for "personal reasons" (Our Foreign Staff writes). He arrived in Britain less than three years ago and was expected to serve for up to five years.

Diplomatic sources in Moscow say the frontrunner to replace him is Yuri Fokin, 61, now ambassador to Norway.

Briton escapes

Freetown: Kathy Jones, a British UN peace official, escaped unhurt when Sierra Leone gunmen ambushed a UN car. They wounded Robert Painter, an American, and killed the driver. *(Reuter)*

Population rise

Washington: The world's population will swell to 6.1 billion by 2000 from its current 5.8 billion, and jump to 6.8 billion by 2025, according to a Population Reference Bureau report. *(AFP)*

Ambush deaths

Agartala: Members of the separatist National Liberation Front of Tripura ambushed a security patrol in northeastern India, shooting dead 18 paramilitary soldiers and a policeman. *(Reuter)*

Down at heel

Manila: Imelda Marcos, the former Philippines First Lady noted for her many shoes and extravagant lifestyle, has been declared the poorest member of Congress, with a net debt of about £680,000. *(AP)*

Venice in peril as tides push water level to 75-year high

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

FLOOD waters in Venice rose to their highest spring level for 75 years yesterday, raising fears that the city is sinking at an increasing rate. Sirens sounded as the water rose to a record 49½ in above sea level, with tourists and residents splashing through water 1½ ft deep in St Mark's Square.

Lady Clarke, president of the Venice in Peril Fund, who lives near the Grand Canal, said the flooding was "extremely unusual for May". Officials confirmed that it was the worst since 1923. Duckboards which had been put away after the winter were hastily taken out of storage.

Meterologists said the unseasonal floods were partly due to the heavy rain in northern Italy over the past few days. But studies by Venice in Peril and Italian environmental agencies show the high waters have become more frequent because of man-made causes, including a channel cut through the lagoon for oil tankers, which has upset the hydrological balance of the lagoon, and extraction of water from artesian basins, which has aggravated subsidence.

The Italian Government is expected to make a preliminary decision this weekend on whether to allow oil and gas drilling in the lagoon, a project which has aroused further international alarm.

Venice has suffered periodic flooding since it was built on wooden piles buried deep in the lagoon in the 8th century. But whereas high tides used to occur every three or four years, and usually in the autumn, they now threaten the city several times a year. Last November, the thirtieth anniversary of the disastrous floods of 1966, the water reached 52 in.

City authorities, who are preparing for celebrations next week marking the 200th anniversary of the end of the Venetian Republic, have increased flood defences. But a long-planned tidal barrier at the mouth of the lagoon has still not been built, partly because of environmental objections but also because of bureaucratic obstacles and alleged corruption over engineering contracts.

Letters, page 21

Catholics advised to enjoy life

Rome: The Roman Catholic Church suffers from a "sackcloth and ashes" image and should adopt a more Epicurean "eat, drink and be merry" attitude to life, according to a leading theologian (Richard Owen writes).

Mgr Giordano Muraro, the "resident theologian" on *Famiglia Cristiana*, Italy's most widely read Catholic magazine, said there was "nothing un-Christian about the pursuit of pleasure". Monsignor Muraro, a Dominican priest, told readers there was no scriptural authority for the often "excessively gloomy and lachrymose" Roman Catholic approach to life's pleasures, which he listed as "eating, drinking, sex, dancing and playing". He said: "It is not written anywhere that suffering is a pre-condition for entering Paradise."

The magazine has increasingly incurred the wrath of the Vatican by advocating liberal views.

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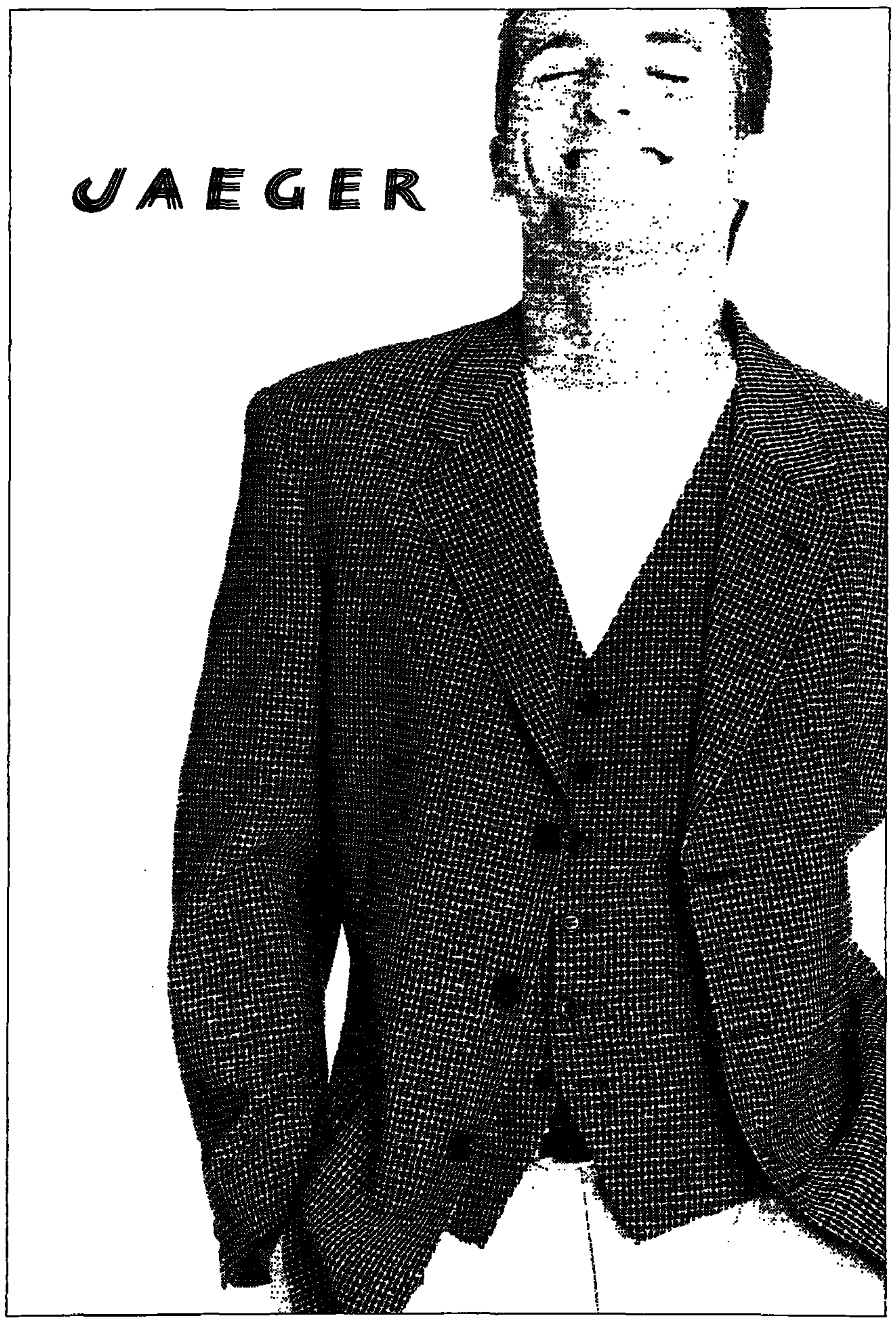

Intelligence officials fear war with neighbours and Palestinian uprising

Israeli security chiefs paint Netanyahu a gloomy picture

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN TEL AVIV

Netanyahu: long-term security analysis

THE Israeli Government has been presented with one of its gloomiest reviews in many years on prospects for peace in the Middle East. Among the predictions are that by 2000 Iran will have missiles capable of hitting Israel and that the conflict with the Palestinians could deteriorate further.

Information obtained by *The Times* shows that Israel's security establishment believes fears of war are fast replacing hopes of peace. Among its immediate recommendations are a special expenditure of 50 million shekels (£10 million) to upgrade the supply of gas masks to the civilian population.

Key elements of the assessment presented to Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, include these points, said to be based on hard, professional intelligence rather than surmise or propaganda:

☐ Iran is in the process of manufacturing rockets described as cousins of the North Korean No Dong 1, with a range of 806 miles, the first prototype of which could be launched within two years.

They will be capable of hitting targets in Israel and may also be used against Saudi Arabia. Israeli experts believe Iran is aiming for an eventual takeover of Saudi oilfields.

☐ Whoever takes over from President Rafsanjani of Iran, after elections on May 23, is expected to steer Tehran along a more revolutionary international track. As well as chemical and biological warheads, Iranian missiles could have self-supplied nuclear capability within ten years — or in less time if plutonium or highly enriched uranium is obtained on the global black market.

☐ Iran will continue beefing-up supplies to the Hezbollah (Party of God) guerrillas fighting a low-intensity conflict with Israel in occupied southern Lebanon.

In the past year, 40 Iranian jumbo jets arrived in Damascus, the Syrian capital, carrying weaponry for Hezbollah. The group is also mounting attacks on Jewish targets abroad.

☐ New weapons that could seriously complicate the present conflict along Israel's northern border include "long-range" Katyushas capable of reaching the outskirts of Haifa, and Stinger shoulder-held anti-aircraft missiles.

These come from American supplies originally sent to Mujahidin fighters in Afghanistan. A number have been fired in Lebanon but have failed for reasons unknown. Their use has been so far unpublicised.

☐ Syria has embarked on what is classified as a national project involving large sums of money on manufacturing chemical weapons with Russian help, including deadly VX nerve gas.

These gases enter through the pores of the skin rather than through inhalation.

☐ Since 1994, President Assad has ordered Syrian forces to adopt a military option. Such an option is serious, but circumstances will dictate whether he will employ it.

At present, Syrian energies are aimed mainly on convincing the Arab world to halt normalisation with Israel. It is open to question whether other Arab states would fight alongside Syria in a new war.

☐ Growing friction between Israel and President Yassir Arafat's Palestinian Authority means there is now the possibility of a long and bitter struggle between the two, with the glare of international publicity ensuring that any local issue could become a regional one within hours.

Since thousands of Palestinians are now armed, a new struggle would result in a Lebanon scenario than the (1987-1993) intifada.

☐ Despite the increase in Palestinian weaponry, the military balance remains overwhelmingly in Israel's favour.

A military source said the key problem would be what the Israeli public would want to do about such a conflict.

As well as analysing the potential for conflict over a wide area in coming years, Israeli sources also supplied Mr Netanyahu's right-wing Government with an assessment of prospects for various Arab leaders, many of whom may leave behind potentially violent succession struggles.

One source said a dangerous vacuum was foreseen in the event of the death of Mr Arafat, with Abu Mazen, his current deputy, unable to command the loyalty of the various internal Palestinian security services. No clear picture was presented about how such an eventuality would affect the moribund peace process which yesterday was subject to a new American rescue mission led by Dennis Ross, the US special envoy.

The death of President Assad, known to have been ill for years, could lead to chaos as his designated successor, his son Bashar, is not considered up to the post. The death of his elder son, Bassel, in a car crash three years ago, means that the most likely succession would be a shaky coalition of military and political figures led by Bashar.

In Jordan, the death of King Hussein could have different repercussions. If it occurred within the next few years, an orderly takeover by his younger brother, Crown Prince Hassan, is likely. But beyond five years, complications could arise concerning the King's sons and the country's 60 per cent Palestinian majority.

Under President Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi regime is seen by Israeli sources as regrettably stable. His death could lead to a total collpase, with with regional implications.

A recent assassination attempt on Saddam's favoured elder son Uday is seen as having Iranian backing, but Uday is dismissed as clinically insane.

KAMEL JABER / REUTER

New Katyusha rockets, the Hezbollah weapon, will be able to hit outskirts of Haifa

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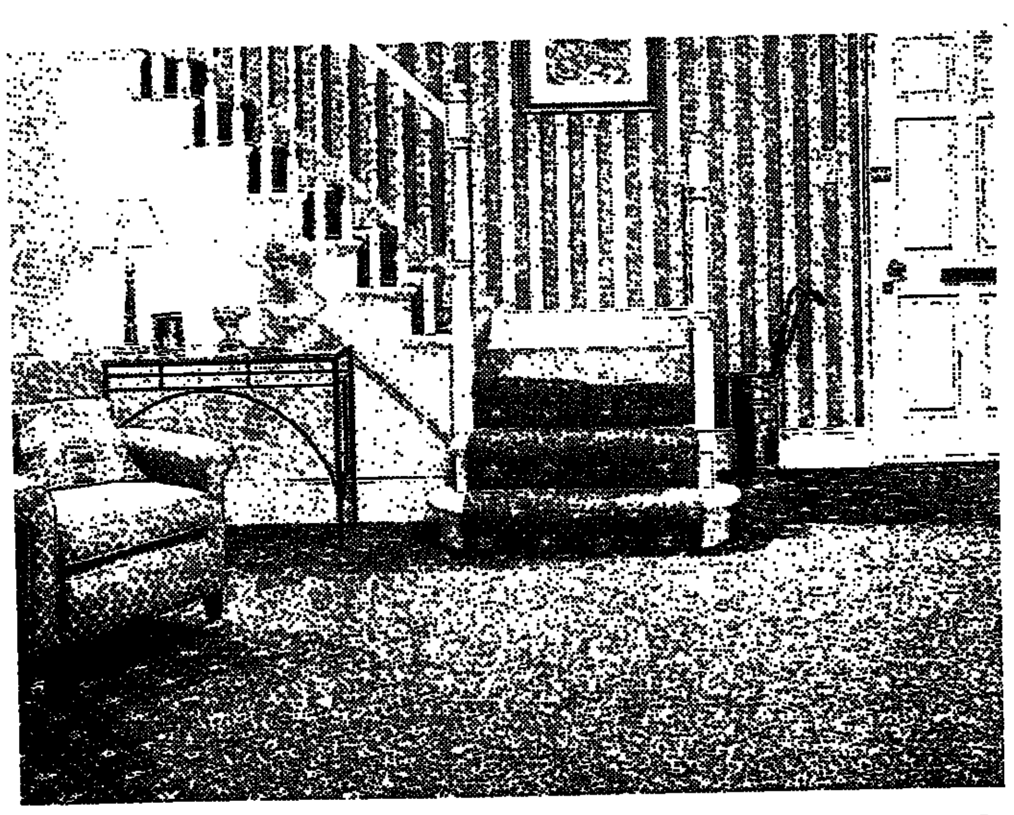

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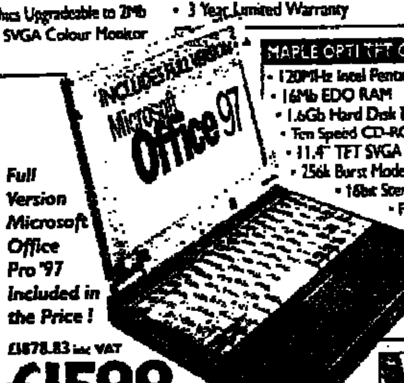

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US report attacks Swiss for trade in Holocaust bullion

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE receipt by Switzerland and other neutral nations of Nazi gold looted from Holocaust victims and central banks helped Germany to prolong its capacity to wage war, according to a scathing study released by the US Government yesterday.

The report said there was conclusive proof that gold coins, jewellery and dental fillings taken from concentration camp victims were smelted with gold plundered from banks in occupied countries into bars that were traded abroad. There was no evidence that neutral countries accepted such tainted gold bars knowing their origin.

While singling out Switzerland among the neutral countries trading with wartime Germany for its harshest criticism, the report castigated the United States role as inadequate and accused Britain of resisting America's more aggressive efforts to seek compensation for refugees from the stolen gold after the war.

Britain had feared that providing looted funds for resettlement of refugees would conflict with its restrictions on the number of Jewish refugees who could enter Palestine, then under a British mandate, the report said. It also found that the urgent desire of Britain and France to revive commerce with Switzerland after the war made them reluctant to join in tough economic measures against the Swiss, causing serious policy differences with the US.

The report was compiled under orders from President Clinton from the files of 11 government departments, including millions of classified documents in the US National Archives. The project was directed by Stuart Eizenstat, a veteran Washington official.

He favoured using the remaining Gold Pool of $70 million (£43 million), controlled by Britain, France and the US, in a fund for the benefit of surviving Holocaust victims. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, announced in London on Tuesday that Britain would host an international conference to help resolve the ownership of Nazi gold seized by the Allies.

The report said serious shortcomings in Allied policy led to a loss of most leverage before Switzerland had met its obligations to return Nazi gold after the war. Neither the US nor its Allies pressed the neutral countries hard enough to fulfil their moral obligations to help Holocaust survivors by redistributing heirless assets for their benefit.

Nazi Germany transferred looted gold worth $400 million, equivalent to $3.8 billion in today's dollars, to the Swiss National Bank to finance its war machine, the report said. In all, the Germans confiscated an estimated $580 million, $5.6 billion in today's value, "one of the greatest thefts by a Government in history".

Switzerland had a complex role during the war but the persistence of its "business as usual" attitude in resisting a postwar return of the gold was inexplicable, the report said.

The other neutrals were Argentina, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey, which joined the Allied effort just before the end of the war. Of these, Sweden was the most co-operative.

The Swiss were obdurate negotiators, the report said. They denied having looted gold and opposed the return of any until the current international pressure came to bear.

Swiss banks now have a fund of $180 million for needy survivors of the Nazis. "A positive healing process has begun," the report concluded.

Review pledged on war conduct

Geneva: The Swiss Government yesterday welcomed the Eizenstat Report and promised to review the report's assessment of its conduct during the Second World War (Peter Capella writes).

But Flavio Cotti, the Swiss Foreign Minister, said that, at first glance the report did not recognise Switzerland's position in the war, surrounded by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy.

JOHN SCHULTS / REUTER

Adjani comes out of hiding

THE reclusive French actress Isabelle Adjani, above, came out of hiding yesterday to join the adjudicators for the fiftieth Cannes Film Festival, which opened yesterday (Dalya Alberge writes). She is the festival president.

Two years ago, she locked herself in her hotel, refusing to emerge. Yesterday, though, she spoke at a press conference of the excitement of watching films. Adjani's talents were discovered and promoted by the songwriter Serge Gainsbourg and the film-maker François Truffaut and she is best known for her performance as Camille Claudel, Rodin's mistress, for which she was received an Oscar nomination.

Crowds jostled for the briefest glimpse of the first of the Hollywood superstars to descend on Cannes. Bruce Willis came to launch *The Fifth Element*, which opened the festival. It is a Hollywood sci-fi blockbuster set in 23rd-century New York — made in Britain at Pinewood Studios by the French director, Luc Besson. Besson said that Britain's superlative technicians were a major reason for his decision to make the film across the Channel.

Willis plays a New York cabbie who fights the aliens, a cross between armadillos and porcupines. The star, who is said to have been paid £15 million for a *Die Hard* sequel, said that he loves coming to Europe because he is not asked about the cost of the film and how much actors get paid. He was immediately asked those very questions.

Kennedy escapes underage sex charge

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

THE latest lurid instalment in the sex lore of the Kennedy clan appears to have ended as abruptly as it had begun, with the woman who alleged that she had an affair with Michael Kennedy when she was a 14-year-old babysitter announcing yesterday that she would not press charges.

Lawyers for Marisa Verrochi, now 19, cited fear of pressure and damaging publicity as the main reasons for which she would not proceed with a formal complaint against Mr Kennedy, 39. Members of her family are among the Democratic party's leading donors, and were close to Senator Robert Kennedy, Michael's father.

The episode comes only six years after a cousin, William Kennedy Smith, was acquitted of raping a woman in Palm Beach. Although Miss Verrochi will not take the matter to court, public opinion remains convinced that Mr Kennedy did have sex with her when she was below the age of legal consent, and was summed up yesterday by the *New York Post* headline: "Looks like Kennedy is off hook in 'rape' case".

The scandal broke late last month when the *Boston Globe* revealed that Miss Verrochi she had a passionate five-year relationship with Mr Kennedy, starting at an age when sex with her would have constituted statutory rape and ending only last September. The revelations led to a "preliminary review" by Massachusetts police and prosecutors, but the investigations soon stalled after the Verrochis refused to co-operate. The family did not, however, issue a public denial.

Yesterday the police chief of Cohasset, where the Verochis live, told the *New York Post* that he had a "gut feeling" that the Verrochis would "cover for Kennedy" to protect their only daughter.

Kennedy: allegedly had affair with babysitter. 14

Navy women 'jinx' denied

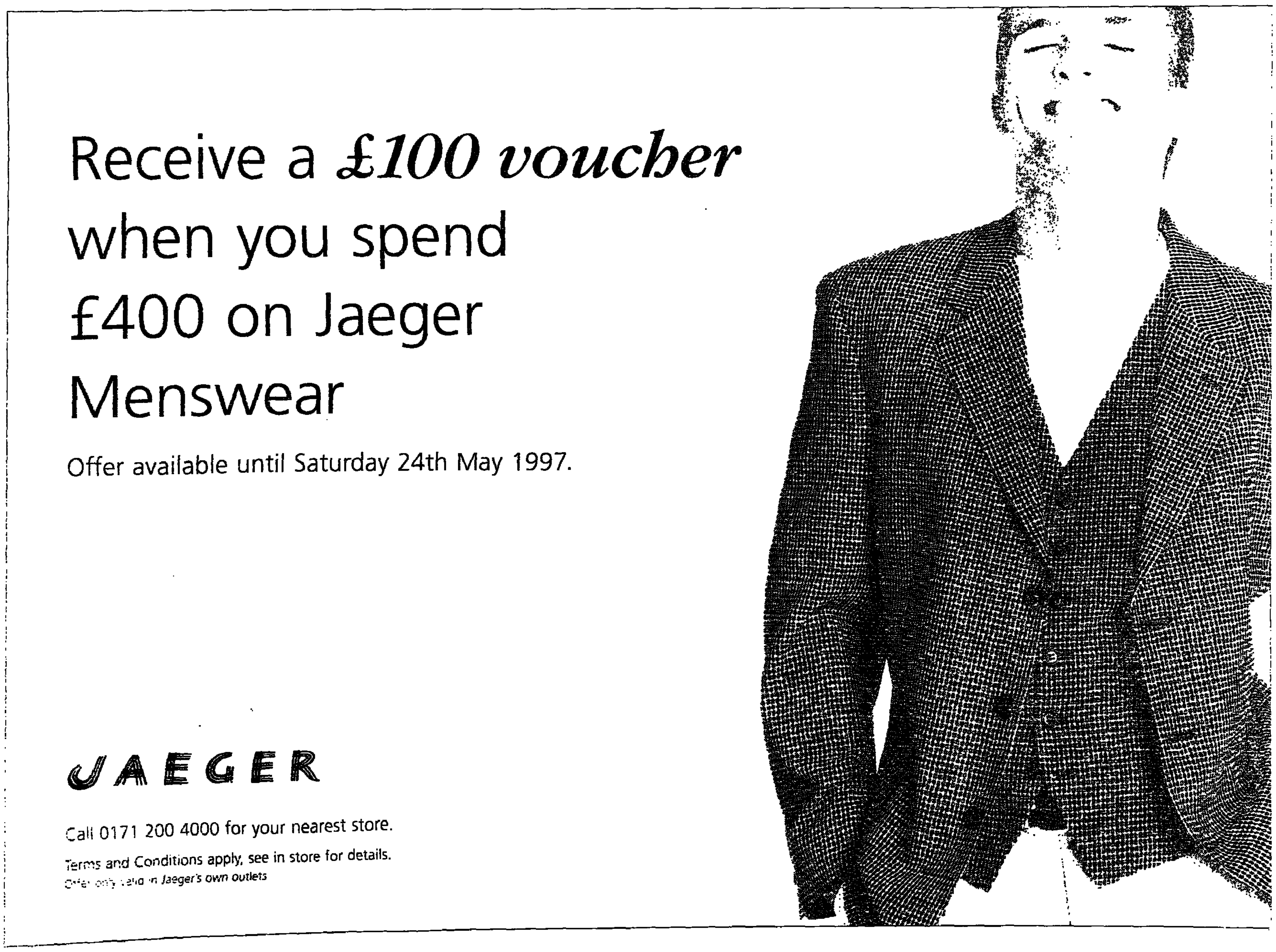
New York: Speculation that the presence of women on the aircraft carrier *USS John F. Kennedy* has cast a jinx on the vessel has been dismissed by American naval commanders (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Five crew members have been killed in the past three months on board the heavily armed carrier. Eight others have been injured seriously.

The recently refitted ship took more than 300 women into its crew earlier this year, and hushed talk below decks now is of such traditional sailors' bogeys as mermaids and sirens. Women ratings are referred to by many men as "FJs" or "female Jonahs". Some crewmen invoke the name of Wendy, from *Peter Pan*, who was considered an ill omen by Captain Hook.

On Tuesday, naval divers called off their search for Nadia Aiten, 22, who was lost overboard in calm seas about 150 miles off the Florida coast last week. She has been listed officially as "lost at sea". In March, four crewmen on the carrier were killed when one of its helicopters crashed while flying a training sortie off the North Carolina coast.

Despite the sequence of disasters, Commander Joe Gradischer, a spokesman for the US Navy, dismissed suggestions of a "Jonah-type jinx or a woman-related ocean-going curse". He said: "None of these events is related. Naval operations are inherently dangerous and incidents can occur from time to time."



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Dr Thomas Stuttaford on the allergens carried by cats, how the technology of the racetrack and space industry can solve the problems of pressure sores, the use of glass as an offensive weapon and why aspirin continues to be hailed as a wonder drug

Why Humphrey the cat may have to move on

Humphrey, the Downing Street cat, *may* be tempted to go absent without leave again. The settled home provided for him by the Majors is in danger. It is *reported that the Prime Minister's* wife, who has perhaps read too many medical briefings, thinks that cats carry too many infections, and are too often a source of allergic disease, to be welcomed in the house. Meanwhile, the Chancellor of the Exchequer is said to own a cat who *wouldn't welcome* a rival.

Cherie Blair may be right. Allergy to pets, particularly *the dried skin shed* by a cat, is a common source of rhinitis, a runny nose often associated with *all* the other symptoms of hay fever. Cats are also a frequent trigger for an attack of asthma in a vulnerable person.

If, however, the Blair children were to develop red eyes, a nasal discharge, a nocturnal cough or *a wheeze it would* be unfair to blame Humphrey alone. Other factors, the concentration of early summer pollen blowing into Downing Street from St James's Park, the tensions of a house move, and parents who will be preoccupied with demands made by their changed world would all be factors likely to *play a part.*

Nothing can be done about pollen, or prime ministerial responsibilities, but it is perhaps as well that the Blairs are, reportedly, *using No 11 as* their main home, leaving Humphrey to the bachelor Gordon Brown. The uncertainty of Humphrey's future, and the increasing pollen count, are not the only reasons why allergic rhinitis has been in the news this week. There has been confirmation that Triludan terfenadine and Astemizole, long-acting popular *non-sedating* antihistamines, may, when used in association with some antibiotics, in particular Klaricid, erythromycin and Ciproxin, as *well as grapefruit juice, may* very occasionally cause cardiac arrythmias.

This research has caused doctors to rethink their prescribing habits.

Sufferers from hay fever, or any other allergy, will not have to suffer in silence. Other *histhamines are* available. Clarityn is also long-acting and non-sedating. Its manufacturers claim that it has undergone extensive investi*gations in relation to* cardiac arrythmias and it has never been demonstrated that any have been caused by it. Zirtek and Semprex also do not seem to carry with *them the risk of a* quinidine-type change being induced in the heart's rhythm. It is also claimed that Fexofenadine, which is closely related to Triludan and is its active metabolite, is free of the risk of causing dangerously irregular heartbeats.

The current thinking on treatment for rhinitis has recently been comprehensively *reviewed in The Practitioner.* Treatment for allergies is not confined to taking tablets or capsules by mouth. The nasal sprays and drops which are available have been improved over the last few years. Flixonase, Beconase and Rhinocort are *probably as well* used as any. But to achieve the best result it is important that treatment start *before any trouble is* expected. Drops and sprays, as well as tablets, should be used for a fortnight before the atmosphere becomes laden with pollen dust from grass and trees, or a planned visit to grandparents who refuse to *banish the cat is due* to take place.

If it is decided to rely on local treatment and the nose is already blocked, *steroid drops may* be the best initial therapy. If nose breathing is still possible a nasal spray may be as effective and is easier to use for good penetration can be achieved with the patient's head held *upright and slightly forwards.*

Two new nasal sprays, Nasonex and Nasocort have both become available; they have the advantage of staying *where they are sprayed* and only have to be used once a day. These sprays, unlike some of the earlier ones, don't affect the sense of smell and taste and therefore leave the palate unaffected. Nasal sprays can cause irritation, occasionally *so severe that* there is bleeding.

When the symptoms are confined to the eyes Otrivine-Antistin antihistamine eye *drops have been in use* for 30 years, they are fast-acting, without any serious side effects and are not absorbed into the system.

FIONA HANSON

Humphrey: not welcome in the Blair household

ANDY KING/AP

Pressure sores are the most common complication of a spinal injury such as the one suffered by Christopher Reeve, which left him a quadraplegic

High-speed help for bed sores

Thirty years ago comatose or unconscious patients used to be regularly turned in bed, and *their backs rubbed and cleaned every* few hours. If back care is inadequate, the skin which has borne the dead weight of the immobile patient can become inflamed and break down *into an ulcer. The ulcer, a pressure or* bed sore, may erode the underlying tissue and on occasion they can become so wide and deep that the resulting toxaemia can be fatal.

Although regular movement of the patient is now usually ensured by a ripple bed, or a mattress which provides an air cushion, it is still an essential part of nursing. Massaging, however, can introduce infection and it has been abandoned.

Yesteryear's ward sister would have been amazed to learn that the technology of the racetrack and space industry is now being harnessed to solve the problems of the pressure sore *in the ward, or those that* occur after the patient has been discharged.

The expertise derived by engineers in the pits is now being put to use to study the stresses that sitting, or *lying, motionless in bed* inflicts on the skin and subcutaneous tissue of a patient.

When a Formula One racing car drives into the pits, a small black box, *like that on an aircraft or space* rocket, reveals the strain to which the car has been subjected. A tattletale, which is a data-logging computerised card, can be taken out of the black box and *later* plugged into a computer. The tattletale will reveal the entire history of all the insults and trauma that the car's engine, suspension, steering and breaking has undergone during the race and will also show how the car has responded. Using *this system, the information can be* rapidly collected and analysed by engineers.

Professor Martin Ferguson-Pell has recently returned from the United States to *take up a chair in* Technology and Disability at University College, London. Professor Ferguson-Pell, who works at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in Stanmore, Middlesex is now investigating ways of adapting the lessons learnt from high-performance mechanical engineering with the aid of the black box and the tattletale card *to plot the stresses and strains that* may be borne by the human body.

One of the conditions that has intrestered Professor Ferguson-Pell is that of pressure sores. By using the *tattletale, he and his team plan* to find out how much stress the skin of a patient can stand before it becomes inflamed and breaks down.

His research team, which is funded by the *medical charity Remedi*, with the aid of a grant from the National *Lottery, hopes to obtain information* that will enable patients to be better nursed in hospital and to be taught the tricks of sitting, and regularly shifting, so as to avoid developing skin sores. Although pressure sores are the most common complication of a spinal injury, they can affect any patient who is *debilitated* and immobile.

The apparatus being used by the research workers consist of cushions, or pads, containing multiple sensors, which, second by *second*, record the pressure exerted on them by a sitting *patient, and hence the pressure* the skin has to bear. The black box, with its tattletale, is screwed beneath the bed or chair and records these varying pressures. *The* multiple sensors in the pads now only record pressure but in the future some will be adapted to measure sheering forces and others will record moisture content and temperature, the microclimate which will also influence the likelihood of skin damage.

When fully developed the tattletale system coupled to sensory pads will also allow orthopaedic surgeons to study the pressure exerted on a limb stump after amputation from an articial leg, or even the pressure on feet by ill-fitting shoes.

Glass attacks and their side effects

EVERY year there are *3,400 to 5,500 assaults in* which glass is used as a weapon. A pre-election Labour Party report accepts that toughened glass — *which shatters into a* thousand pieces when broken — would protect bar workers and casual bystanders from fighting drunks who can so easily permanently scar or disable other people.

For the past decade research workers, led by Professor Jonathan Shepherd of the Department of Oral Surgery, *Medicine* and Pathology at the University of Wales College of Medicine, have been investigating the use of beer glasses as *offensive weapons.* Most injuries inflicted are to the face, but some people sustain lasting damage to their ligaments and deeper tissues of the hands and wrists.

Of 121 regular bar workers *in* South Wales interviewed by the research team, 41 per cent had sustained cuts from glasses, either as a result of assault or by accidental injury. Research has shown *that when the glass is used* as a weapon, it is usually used while intact and only breaks on contact with the victim's face.

The latest research studies the effect of cross-infection from broken, dirty beer glasses. The survey shows that half of all bar staff interviewed had been exposed to someone else's blood, *thereby providing an* unacceptable risk for the transmission of hepatitis B.

Hearts stay healthier with aspirin

ASPIRIN continues to be hailed as a wonderdrug and new properties are regularly *announced. The drug not only* reduces the risk of a heart attack but is obligatory first-aid treatment after one.

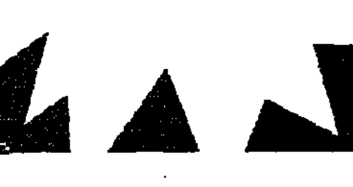
Researchers investigating *the cardio-protective powers of* aspirin have concluded that these powers are not only related to the drug's ability to stop platelets sticking together. (*Platelets are small* particles in the blood which are involved in the clotting *mechanism.*) The *New England Journal of Medicine* reports that measuring the C-Reactive protein level in the blood, which is a marker for inflammation, has revealed a correlation between this level and the likelihood of having a heart attack. As aspirin reduces the C-Reactive protein level, by reducing inflammation, it was thought possible that its *cardio-protective action could* be twofold: that aspirin might reduce platelet stickiness and any inflammatory process which could predispose people to *heart attacks.*

It was shown that taking aspirin reduced the *risk* of a heart attack in those patients with a high C-Reactive protein level by 56 per cent, but had no influence on those with *normal* C-Reactive levels.

A possible remedy for post-election blues

COMMENTATORS have been quick to recognise the association between the loss of a parliamentary seat and *the bereavement response.* A defeated candidate might suffer a period of shock and disbelief, which would be followed by anger, depres*sion, and later by acceptance.* The grief response isn't brought on only by death but by anything that causes loss or separation from friends and a *well-established* lifestyle.

A bereaved person's mental state may become arrested at any stage of the grief response. As *was demonstrated* by the BBC *Today* programme, which interviewed former MPs who had lost their seats in past elections, *some people were still* angry years later. Others remained depressed for years, but some fortunately had either not worried and had grinned and borne it, or had lived through their anger and grief to start a *new life outside Westminster.* When persistently miserable, the beaten member is likely to be anxious and depressed. If this state of mind lasts for *more than a few months,* or is very severe, the ex-parliamentarian would *need to be* treated with anti-depressants. Seroxat might be the drug of choice as it alleviates both anxiety and depression with*out causing so much* inertia that the patient is incapable of looking for a new job. One word of caution, however. Drugs of this type are not recommended for anyone with liver damage, so if too *much time has been spent in* Annie's Bar, some other treatment would be needed.



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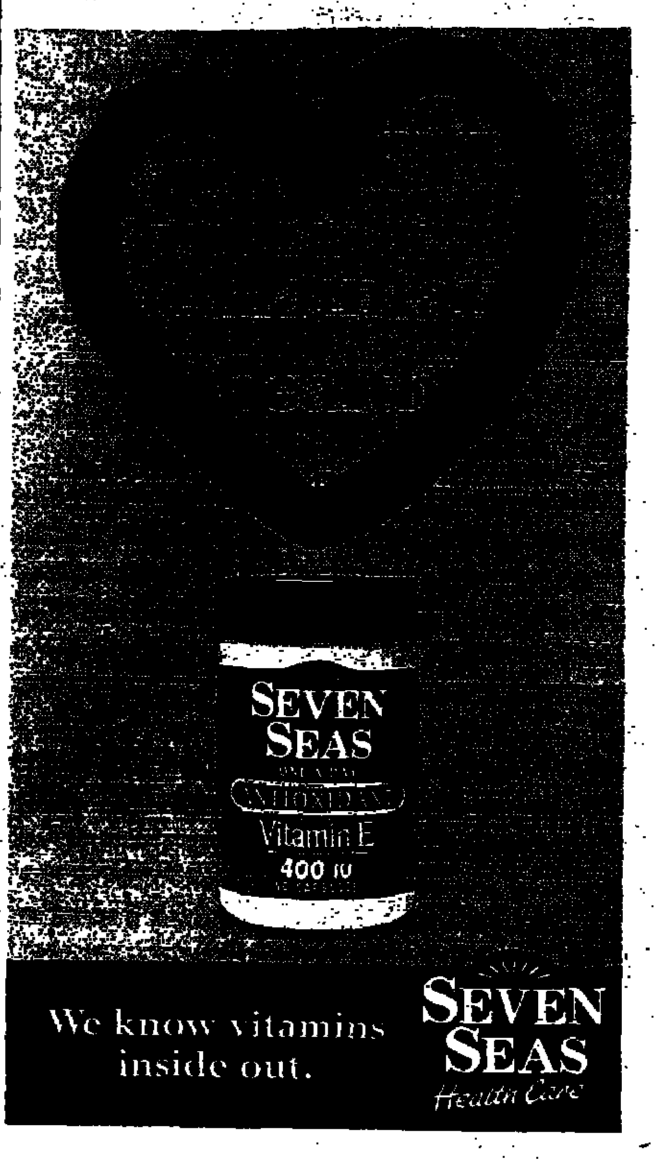

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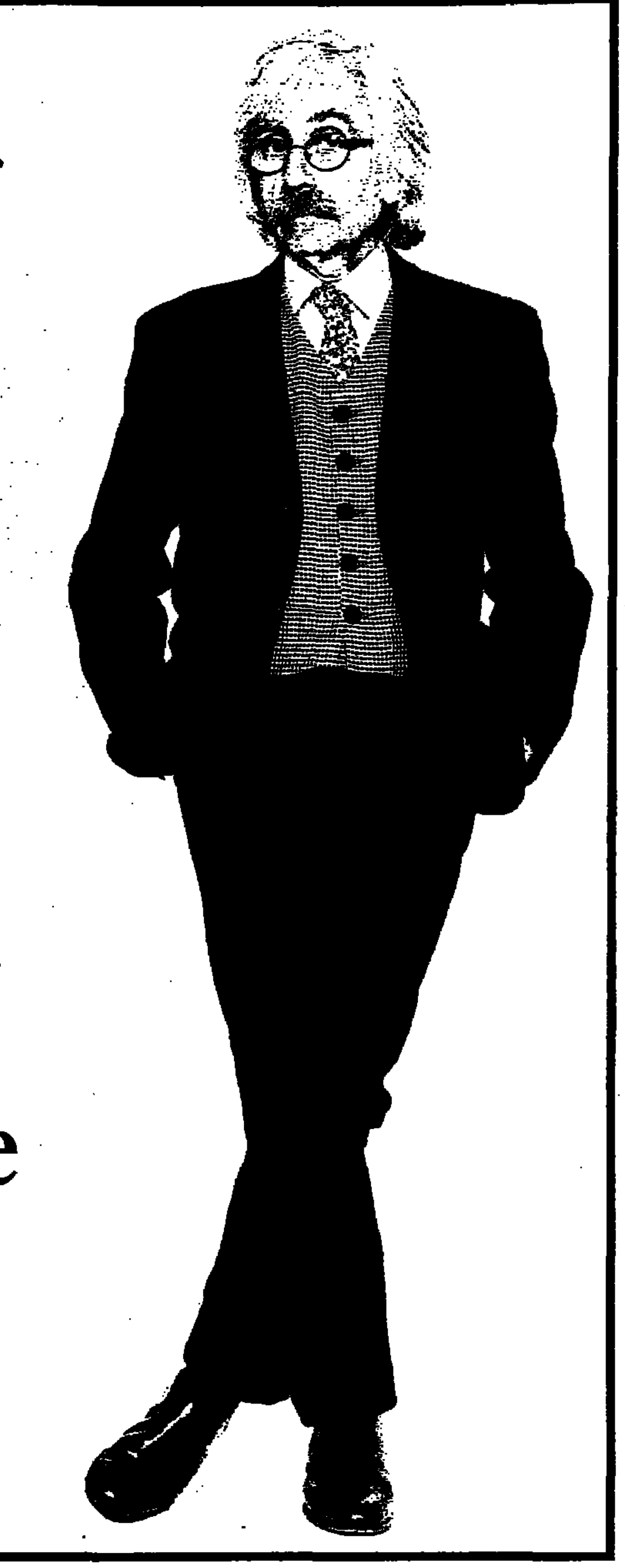
'I can't think of one human gesture Father made to anyone. Nor can I recall a gesture of love towards Mother'

JOHN SWANNELL



Mother's boy: "I went everywhere with her into my early twenties," says Roy Strong. "It was all so wrong"

I was born in the north London suburb of Winchmore Hill in a late 1920s terrace house on August 23, 1935, the youngest of three sons of an *impoverished* commercial traveller, George Edward Clement Strong, and his wife, Mabel Ada Smart.

The marriage was not a good one. My father had no sense of responsibility whatsoever for any of his children. It was my mother who was to be the driving force to secure for them what her father had told her was the key to their future — education. To achieve that she worked hard, taking every kind of job, and leaving behind her a debt which no son can ever adequately repay.

Shy and introspective, I felt alone in this unhappy, riven household, creating instead my own secure world of toy theatres and through wielding the paintbrush. Early on I *became fascinated* by the past, and although what I would like to have done most was to design for the stage (later I had the good fortune to marry into that), it was deemed safe for me to go on to read history at university with perhaps a career in teaching in mind. That came at the end of important formative years at the local grammar school, Edmonton County, where there happened to be one other boy, slightly older, who was also to achieve public distinction — Norman Tebbit.

Christmas Day 1969

I am writing this entry at 1.15am, on Christmas morning at home at 23 Colne Road, having returned from midnight Mass. *How strange it is* to be sleeping in this back bedroom again after so long. I was the youngest of three brothers. Until I was 12 or 13 I shared the back bedroom with my brother Brian, at least from about 1944, when he came back from evacuation. We started in one double bed and then, as the war ended, that was exchanged with *someone nearby for two black* iron Victorian ones. Mine was that nearest the door and the light switch, and I had to get out of bed to turn it off, treading on the cold linoleum square which was all that covered the floorboards.

There were no *points* and no bedside tables. The room was distempered and there was a *small cast-iron fireplace which* was never lit. In winter it was so cold that each morning the windows were a flowery pattern of thick frost.

The room was divided down the middle, the left-hand side being assigned to me. The solitary piece of furniture which was mine was an old wooden chest of drawers painted green. Alas, it had no drawers, and a curtain was stretched across it on a wire. Behind that lurked the shelves, on which resided what little one had. But it was better than what *preceded* it, for the double bed had during the war been moved to the room below and sat beneath an Anderson shelter, the centre of the room being jacked up by wooden joists in case the ceiling fell in due to bombing. The back room in which I now lay had housed our neighbour's furniture piled high for the duration of the war. It wasn't till my mid-teens, when my eldest brother Derek married, that I had a room of my own, the tiny box room at the front of the house about 9ft by 8ft.

December 26.

How old Father seems, and sad and irritating. He will be 75 next year. I look at him and find it very difficult to believe that he was apparently quite the life of the party when he was young. Occasionally there's a flicker of what might once have been but what I see now is a slightly bent figure with an enormous *bloated* stomach. He left school at 12 and seems to have forgotten what little he ever learnt there. I find it difficult to have any communication with him, worse now because he sleeps all day, waking only for meals, and has become terribly forgetful. His life had been a *monument* to the lack of will power. No one should be like that. I think in a funny kind of way that he loves my mother, despite having ill-treated her for 40 years. He wanted a housekeeper, not a wife. His attitude to women is basically prewar working class. He still resents her reading a book because he regards that as lazing, but also because she is *demonstrating her relative literacy over him.*

November 21, 1984

The telephone rang at about 8am this morning. It was Derek, my eldest brother. Father had died in the night. I remember saying to Julia years ago: "Don't think that I will shed a tear when this happens and I shan't feel any guilt about it." I was right. How could it be otherwise? He was never interested in any of us. He had barely addressed a word to me for the last 25 years. Home in retrospect was largely hell, and all one regrets is that one didn't get away from it soon enough. Everything revolved around him. My early years were all of a pattern. In deprived wartime he always had his egg and bacon breakfast. We didn't. He always had to have his piece of steak for supper when he came in from work. We stood and watched. He always had what he wanted on the radio. We listened. He would always eat on his own. Indeed, Mother cooked in relays. He would shout "Mabel, Mabel", *and she would rush* panic-stricken to the kitchen. "Where's the mustard/salt/-sauce etc?" The particular item would be only ten feet away in the larder or just behind him on the gas stove. But he would never move. He taunted her through life. "Why are you reading?" "Haven't you got a wartime job yet?" "Look at *Mabel's teeth*" *(when the poor thing had lost one at the front).* It was never-ending. Until the 1960s she was given £2.4s.6d a week with which to feed and clothe herself and three boys. Yes, I did know what poverty was. Some days we would sit trying to rake together the fare to Enfield or Palmers Green and a 1s 9d seat at the cinema.

He had no interest in any of *his children that I can ever* remember. He might have done when we were very young. Certainly he had no idea that they ought to be brought up. Year in and year out we trembled, awaiting his return from work. On went the old pink dressing-gown and out came the whisky. He sat in the corner of the sitting room with the radio by him. Piles of dirty *handkerchiefs* were to hand for he suffered badly from asthma. Indeed, he was always "ill". No one was ever so ill as he was but he went on till his 90th year. All my memories are of him being ill, of us having to be quiet or *leave the room,* or carry things up and down stairs as he sat huddled in bed.

I think that he only ever took me out two or three times on my own, and that would be fishing on a Sunday morning, which I loathed. I remember making at school a small pouch for him to keep his tobacco in for Christmas. He dismantled it virtually before my eyes in order to use the piece of chamois leather as a *duster.* All through the war and after he had boxes of *black-market chocolates* which he kept in a cupboard. He would cheerfully eat one in front of us, or give one to one child and none to the others.

Only once did my mother ever get him to go to a parents' evening at Edmonton County Grammar School. I recall *coming home clutching* a very good report and advancing to show it to him. He pushed it away unread.

My only memory of 23 Colne Road was of life under a dictatorship, my mother sitting, sometimes weeping, in the kitchen. Everything she said was prefaced with, "But don't tell your father". For 55 years this went on. Only in the last 20 did she get her own back when he had to depend on her. Then *she* turned and became ironically *his* old self. But even then she ran round him still, crippled as she was with arthritis. What he needed always had to be fetched, carried, cooked. What a marriage! As a teenager I could never understand why in other homes I visited the family did things together like eat, go out, go on holiday. The husband and wife would be loving to each other and to their children. None of that ever came my way.

> 'Home was hell, and all one regrets is that one didn't get away soon enough'

For a time I hated him. I use that word deliberately. As I grew up I suddenly saw him for what he was, and for what he had done to my mother and to all of us. I hated him for that. In one's teens it was all bottled up. How could it have been otherwise? From time to time it would explode in violent rages when I had endured some awful humiliation. I have never felt anger, rage and resentment so deeply, so bitterly, as I did in my *early teens.*

I blamed him too for what I had become: "Mother's boy". For years as I grew into manhood I took his place. I went everywhere with her even into my early twenties. It was all so wrong, and when I achieved the break, my mother never quite recovered from it. On my marriage it was total. But it should never have been allowed to happen.

And yes, I was ashamed of Colne Road. I dreaded anyone I knew coming there. Father would always deliberately say the wrong thing. The person concerned would then be torn to pieces afterwards. Only as life passes and happiness comes can one have the true measure of unhappiness. Worse than that, only when one matures and sees good homes and good parenthood can one's own childhood be placed into context. God knows, my mother really did what she could. Yes, she loved us boys all, she cooked, laboured, went to work, subsidised us and really believed in our education, but it was at a price. We were to be *her* boys. No one was good enough for us, none of us should ever marry. The attitude was primeval. As I married last, for years I was held up as an example: "Roy's sensible," she would proclaim.

But to return to my father. What did life mean to him? Did he enjoy it? One tries to look with compassion at any human being. I suppose he got pleasure out of some things: fishing and the garden. The terrible thing is that I cannot think of one human gesture he ever made to anyone. I can't think of any help or kindness towards anyone either. I never recall one gesture of love towards my mother. Even birthdays and Christmas were reduced to a few pounds handed over and an entry in his ledger. Never a kiss, a bunch of flowers or a box of chocolates. And never a surprise gift. She sounded almost girlish when I spoke to her after he had died. I'm hardly surprised, but it's a false dawn.

● *Extracted from* The Roy Strong Diaries 1967-1987, *by Roy Strong, to be published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson on May 12, £20.*

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Tranquil and secure with Julia

MICHAEL LEOWARD

Getting married to Julia in July 1971

July 1971

At this point my diary really does falter, for I was on the lead-up to July 21 when I proposed to Julia in St James's Park after having taken her to a perfectly awful film of *King Lear.* From then on, and with all the machinations to achieve a wholly private wedding, everything else went out of my mind. What happened can only be caught in retrospect.

September 9, 1971. Letter to Jan van Dorsten [a Dutch friend]

By the time that this reaches you it will have happened. I will have eloped with Julia Trevelyan Oman! Unbeknown to practically everyone, to parents especially, I asked Julia to marry me on July 21. I cannot tell you how thrilled and happy I am about it all . . . No one knows. It has been a vast operation doing it so [that] no one does, and very *romantic. In the church at* Wilmcote, near Stratford-upon-Avon, lies locked in the safe a huge special licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury. Gerard Irvine, a very good friend, is marrying us and David Hutt, his curate, is my best man — the old lady sacristan of 91, sworn to secrecy, is witness.

May 6, 1972. To Jan van Dorsten

We work hard and economise for the reason that we have seen the house of our dreams in Northamptonshire. We have unfortunately fallen in love with it and are quite obsessed, which is fatal because it is expensive, but we have decided that we would rather live as decayed gentlefolk in grandeur than in bijou smartness in Brighton.

September 5, 1979. To Jan van Dorsten

Next Monday we will have been married eight years and my only regret is that it were not longer. We wish you both [Jan van Dorsten had just married for the third time] all the loving happiness that we have had and have every day together, all the eating together, the cooking, the washing-up, the planting and weeding, the shopping, the working, the everything — it is the most precious thing ever to be given.

1996. Postscript

. . . On the other side of the house Julia, I know, will be at *her drawing board, our two* cats curled up in nests close to her. We will meet at lunch, something always to look forward to . . . everywhere there are photographs of Julia and of our cats, both past and present. Julia happy picnicking at Glyndebourne. Julia peering through the branches of an apple tree laden with fruit. Julia doing her patchwork or embracing a cat. Outside spreads that paradise which we created together, the garden. I feel tranquil and secure. Can anyone ask for more?

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Britain's blind eye to inhumanity

Geoffrey Robertson, QC, shows how to put war criminals on trial

Dusko Tadic is no Hermann Goering. He had no political power, and not even a military uniform — he was a vicious hoodlum allowed to rampage through prisoner-of-war camps. His conviction at The Hague yesterday for "crimes against humanity" scarcely begins to fulfil the promise of Nuremberg. That historic achievement owed much to Britain, and the 1945 Labour Government. The new Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, may thus take the opportunity, rejected by his Tory predecessors, to give this nation once again a leading role in the enforcement of human rights.

The difficulties faced by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia have not been helped by Britain, which has not contributed to the tribunal's trust fund. Much of the work is underwritten by America and Holland. Britain has done little more than pay the salary of four investigators and provide some equipment. More seriously, the British Government has declined to provide war-crimes evidence believed by prosecutors to have been intercepted at GCHQ. More seriously still, the Government has refused to order British troops in Bosnia to arrest the Bosnian Serbs indicted for war crimes by the Hague tribunal. The Dayton directive "to arrest if encountered", has been translated as "avoid encountering at all costs".

Robin Cook could help to enforce human rights

This is the sorry way in which the last Government carried the torch of Nuremberg. That trial is celebrated because for one brief moment the international community allowed law to rule over diplomatic expediency. That it succeeded in providing a fairish trial, completed within a year, for the Nazi leaders was in large measure due to the British judges and the British prosecution team, led by Labour's Attorney-General Hartley Shawcross.

In the aftermath of Nuremberg, the UN declared in favour of a permanent international criminal court — a proposal revived in 1992 as a diplomatic fig-leaf to cover its embarrassment at the failure to prevent genocide in the former Yugoslavia and, the following year, in Rwanda. This has led to its "showpiece" tribunal in The Hague, with one conviction (of Tadic) after four years, and the disastrously mismanaged Rwanda tribunal in Arusha, which has not even commenced its first trial.

The UN's basic mistake was to opt for full-blooded adversary proceedings akin to American jury trials. It was beguiled by the memory of Nuremberg, forgetting just how simple that case was to prosecute, in a defeated country with defendants safely under lock and key and all the documentary evidence available.

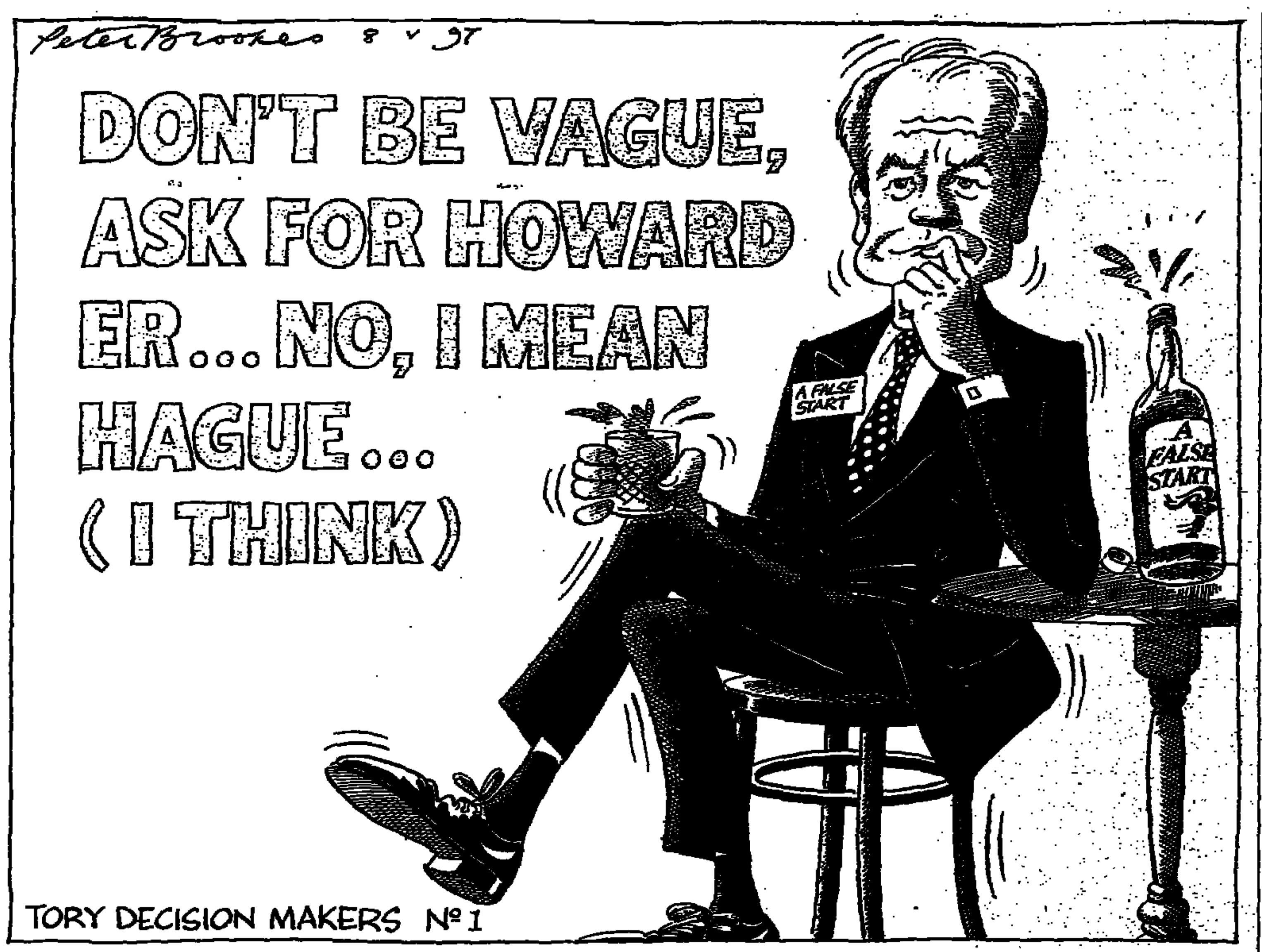
The Hague tribunal has had to operate thousands of miles from the scene of the crimes, with witnesses now scattered across the world and with no power of search or seizure, let alone of arrest. It has only eight defendants in custody so far, only one (a Croat general) of any seniority. Its adversarial procedures have produced rules that are exquisitely fair in theory, yet its need to protect witnesses has led its judges to make anonymity rulings which are manifestly unfair to the defence. In one appalling decision, the court ruled by a majority that Tadic would not be allowed to know the names of some of his accusers, on whose anonymous testimony he could be jailed for life. This was not so much setting human rights standards as betraying them.

The Tadic judgment is the time for the international community to take stock of this tribunal. Many diplomats (especially British, French and Chinese) do not want it to work at all, because they feel it will lead to the establishment of a permanent criminal court. But that is the real justification for its existence. It must make tyrants and torturers hold their bloody hand for fear that someday, somewhere, they will be held to account. A court which cannot reach Mladic and Karadzic is unlikely to deter anyone minded to emulate those who now live untroubled after their crimes against humanity.

Britain might change this by directing its forces to take immediate action to arrest Bosnian Serbs who have been indicted for war crimes. It should certainly reverse the policy of refusing to make its electronic intelligence available to the Hague prosecutors. This refusal is a breach of our obligations under Article 29 of the tribunal statute of the Security Council. The immorality of withholding evidence of crimes against humanity was recognised last year when the White House directed the CIA and the National Security Agency to co-operate with the prosecution. The new British Government should do likewise, before it incurs America's wrath.

Then we might begin to make the kind of commitment to international justice that was made at Nuremberg. Britain has so far supplied no judges or prosecutors, and the barristers who assisted the Tadic defence (wearing wigs, somewhat absurdly, beneath their headphones) have now been sacked. What is particularly needed is for Britain to take a lead at the Security Council, to change the clumsy adversarial format to that of a commission of inquiry, which can take evidence on the ground and operate much more speedily and effectively, while remaining fair to the defence at the investigative stage.

Mr Cook has an opportunity to renew Britain's reputation as a champion of human rights. He will recall from his reading of Matrix Churchill documents how little attention was paid to this subject in the secret decision to arm Saddam Hussein. His foreign policy should not make the same mistake.


Peter Brookes 8 v 97
DON'T BE VAGUE, ASK FOR HOWARD ER... NO, I MEAN HAGUE... (I THINK)
A FALSE START
A FALSE START

TORY DECISION MAKERS Nº 1

Don't bank on the Bank

Gordon Brown has gone back to a pre-war system. He may be right, but the euro threatens its stability

William Rees-Mogg

In 1946 a Labour Chancellor, Hugh Dalton, nationalised the Bank of England and transferred control of monetary policy and interest rates to the Treasury. This reflected the Labour Party's belief that the independent Bank's deflationary policies in the 1920s and early 1930s had caused the high unemployment of the inter-war period. In 1997, another Labour Chancellor, Gordon Brown, has restored control of monetary policy to the Bank, albeit subject to an inflation target fixed by the Government. This reflects the new Labour Party's belief that governments cannot be trusted with monetary policy, but will use it for political purposes. The pound has in fact depreciated by more than 95 per cent since 1946.

Neither Chancellor seems right. Independent central banks in the United States and Britain did follow the disastrous monetary policies which led to the 1929 crash and the slump of the early 1930s. Democratic politicians do have an inflationary record: it is easier to inflate than to maintain monetary discipline. All that can be said is that politicians usually make their mistakes on the inflationary side and bankers on the deflationary. Discretion may not be enough: the great American economist Irving Fisher thought that a predictable and largely automatic system of price stabilisation was required.

On December 18, 1922, Fisher testified before the Committee on Banking and Currency of the House of Representatives in support of the Goldesborough Bill "to stabilise the purchasing power of money". The Bill contained all the essential features of his own "compensated dollar" plan, under which the gold content of the dollar would be varied automatically to keep it a constant purchasing power.

He told the committee: "The Federal Reserve Act has stopped panics, but it has not stopped crises. We have been in the last 18 months through the severest crisis that the United States has ever passed through. That would have been avoided if we had had a stable dollar ... These business cycles, which pass through periods of crisis, depression, liquidation, recovery and so on are at bottom chiefly changes in the purchasing power of the dollar . . . If you stabilise the dollar, you stabilise business ... The final result of inflation is a lowering of production. The same is true of deflation. The average man is the victim either way." Irving Fisher's own "compensated dollar" scheme came to nothing. Whether it would have worked as a transition from the Gold Exchange standard cannot be known. It would probably have been less damaging than what happened. It might even have saved the world from the slump and therefore from the rise of Hitler and the Second World War.

The idea of automatic roles to stabilise currencies did not originate with Irving Fisher; he was himself fascinated by its history. There was a Massachusetts law of 1747 which valued the state's money in terms of four commodities: corn, beef, wool and leather. In the late 19th century there was a proposal by Carl Menger, the leading Austrian economist, that the price level should be stabilised by the issue of paper money, as required, to neutralise fluctuation of purchasing power. There was Frank Parsons' book, *Rational Money*, published in 1898, which advocated expansion or contraction of currency through a sliding scale of interest in accordance with the movement of prices. There was W. Stanley Jevons's support for what he called "a tabular standard of value". There was the Indian currency reform of 1893.

Irving Fisher is particularly important to the development of these ideas, because of his book *The Purchasing Power of Money*, published in 1911. He there argued that price changes are determined by changes in the money supply, and that those changes should be automatically corrected in the light of price changes. It is this automatic element that is absent from the theory of modern central banking; the discretionary method that Gordon Brown is asking the Bank of England to follow has unfortunately proved subject to great errors, whether in the hands of government or central banks.

This is all based on a monetarist theory of the causes of changes in the price-level. In the same book, Fisher developed his celebrated version of the equation of exchange, which is the foundation of modern monetarism. He claims that the quantity theory of money "though often crudely formulated, has been accepted by Locke, Hume, Adam Smith, Ricardo, Mill, Walker, Marshall, Hadley, Fetter, Kemmerer and most writers on the subject". He even adds the Roman Julius Paulus, who wrote about 200 AD.

In 1911, Maynard Keynes, then a young Cambridge don, was fascinated by Irving Fisher's monetary theory, which he always referred to with respect. He wrote Fisher an important letter. "The question of currency reform stands now in a very different position from that in which it stood a dozen years ago. On the one hand the general use of index numbers for the measurement of change in the cost of living has been widely extended, and the public belief in this method greatly developed. On the other hand, the establishment of the Gold Exchange standard by India and its violent adoption by numerous other countries, have demonstrated that a truly scientific reform can supply a firm and stable basis to the currency . . . A proposal for some combination of the Gold Exchange standard with a tabular standard has, therefore, an amount of practical experience behind it, which did not exist ... It is important therefore that the consideration of an organised currency on the part of all civilised nations should not be left untouched until the existing standard has begun to involve all countries alike in manifest calamities."

As so often, Keynes's insights, which are sometimes superior to the theories he developed from them, raise most interesting questions. The great virtue of the Gold Exchange system, as of the earlier Victorian gold standard, was its combination of stability and universality. Gold was a world currency, or the standard for the world currencies. When we lost the gold standard, we lost this universality.

What Gordon Brown has done is to reintroduce an independent discretionary system on a local basis. It has the merit of being related to the movement of prices, but the defect of being arbitrary. Economists going back to David Ricardo have concluded that such a discretionary monetary policy will always be abused, whether by governments or banks. In 1946 this independent central bank system was thought to have failed completely in Britain, but now it is thought that the governmental system which replaced it has failed.

The proposed European monetary union is also a discretionary system, also in the hands of central bankers, also local, though for a larger region. If, like the Indian currency reform of 1893, the euro related to a stable external policy, it might be reasonably stable itself. But the record of unanchored discretionary systems of this kind is that they are not stable, even in the hands of competent central bankers. The euro will also lack the political foundation that the individual European currencies enjoy. It will not be built on a democratic basis.

Even in 1911, when currencies were stable and the world was at peace, Maynard Keynes had this farsighted foreboding that the existing standard might "involve all countries alike in manifest calamities". Irving Fisher had similar fears. In 1933 he wrote: "I have a strong conviction that these two economic maladies, the debt disease and the price-level disease (or dollar disease) are, in the great booms and depressions, more important causes than all others put together." He even thought that the 1930s slump was so far the result of mistaken Federal Reserve policies that it would not have occurred "had Governor Strong of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York lived, or had his policies been pursued consistently after his death".

The independence of the Bank of England may prove somewhat wiser than the independence of a Chancellor of the Exchequer, but its discretion will still be open to dangerous errors.

Will ye no come back again?

Magnus Linklater on the gap left by the Scots Tories

As ever, P.G.Wodehouse put it best: "His whole attitude recalled irresistibly to mind that of some assiduous hound who will persist in laying a dead rat on the drawing-room carpet, though repeatedly apprised by word and gesture that the market for same is sluggish or even non-existent."

The Tory hound has been instructed, in no uncertain terms, to go and hunt for something better. The dead manifesto he laid on the carpet has been rejected. He still has that puzzled, chastened look on his face, but the light is beginning to dawn. He heads off, nose down, into the undergrowth. He may be gone for some time — and who knows what he may return with. In any event, most people are far too entranced with the top dogs who have replaced him to pay much attention. They are absorbed in the sheer novelty of new faces, new policies, the extraordinary sight of a Foreign Secretary saying Yes to Europe, a Chancellor handing over power to the Bank of England, and a sports minister in jeans.

It is this period of innocence that makes the business of opposition so thankless. The 165 Conservative MPs who huddle onto the Commons benches will feel not just outnumbered by the 419 Labour Members opposite (to say nothing of the 46 Liberal Democrats), but will be morally disabled as well. They will find it hard to mount a coherent criticism of the Government's decisions. Their principles will be dismissed as posturing; their objections derided as the cavilling of yesterday's men. Of nothing is that more true than of the Scottish measures that will dominate the first term of this administration. A major reform of the constitution will proceed through the House with not a single Tory MP in the country most affected. The latest name to emerge from south of the border as a possible Shadow Secretary is that of Eric Forth. It is not hard to imagine the reception that will be accorded to the Member for Bromley and Chislehurst when he first rises to question the limits of a Scottish Parliament in determining health policy in Motherwell.

Yet that is precisely the kind of question that needs to be asked. Even the Scottish Secretary, Donald Dewar, speaks of the need for "proper parliamentary scrutiny and proper public debate" when it comes to considering the referendum Bill and then the White Paper on a Scottish parliament which is promised for the summer. The order with which all this will be done is, as Tam Dalyell has pointed out, the wrong way round: first there will be a short Bill to allow the referendum to take place, then a White Paper setting out the details of the legislation, then finally, and only after the referendum, the Bill itself.

Scots will therefore be voting on measures that have not yet been drafted. The White Paper needs the most rigorous examination, because it will be the first time voters see the small print of their future contract with Westminster. Unless someone is ready to point out the pitfalls, they will not have access to the kind of information they need to make a proper choice. It is no good looking for robust opposition to the Liberal Democrats or the Scottish Nationalists. The former are co-founders with Labour of the "constitutional convention"; the latter have only six members.

Meanwhile, Tories in Scotland have to decide on their own position if they are to have any role. The party has to pull back from the extreme anti-devolution stance of the former Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth. To retain credibility it cannot be seen to be doing so too hastily; its present Chairman, Annabel Goldie, has already been criticised for trying to force the pace. Its best course of action would be to spend the summer examining the legislation as objectively as possible, pointing out anomalies in the White Paper without opposing its proposals root and branch, then standing back to allow the Scots to take their own decision. If they vote yes, as they are likely to do, the Scottish Tories can then perform a decorous U-turn, support the moves towards a Scottish parliament, and campaign for election to it as soon as possible.

Long before then, unfortunately, there will have to be some blood-letting. Recriminations have already broken out over the way the party's former Chairman, Sir Michael Hirst, was forced to resign by members of his own organisation shortly before the election campaign. The timing and the ruthlessness with which the deed was done left deep wounds, which are only now being painfully probed. While that is going on, the chances of a coherent and united approach are remote.

So it is good to be able to report that at least two Scottish think-tanks, one formed by the Scottish Council Development and Industry one in memory of the late John Smith, are taking shape. Ideally, they will explore the reform proposals in detail, and will prompt hard questions about its weaknesses. They may not be able to do so in the traditional parliamentary style, but until the Tory hound has returned from its snufflings in the undergrowth, someone else will have to do the retrieving.

THE TIMES DIARY

Cross lord

THE first post-electoral defection is on the cards. David Alton, the moral crusader and former Liberal Democrat MP who was given a peerage in John Major's last honours list, is to abandon his party to become a crossbencher in the Upper House.

Alton was reluctant to comment on his plans yesterday, but the Liberal Democrats, still drunk with the number of seats they gained last Thursday, expect him to leave them — and appear to care not a hoot. "He has been seriously adrift from the Lib Dems for some time," says a party spokesman. "He never came to any meetings."

Alton upset the party's chiselled leader, Paddy Ashdown, earlier this year when he suggested that "talk of a place at the Cabinet table for Paddy would end in tears . . . before surrendering the independence of his party for the trappings of ministerial office, he needs to ask himself some tough questions about what will be gained and what will be lost".

In reponse, Paddy adopted a moral tone: "Surely to God we can now find a system of politics in this country where if we agree with another party we're prepared to say, 'I agree with you.'" Alton disagrees profoundly and blames Paddy for "cosying up for a Lib-Lab pact in carpet slippers".

Stranded

JUST THREE days into a Labour Government, one of the bastions of old England has allowed standards to fall. For the first time in living memory Simpson's-in-the-Strand is unable to produce Havana cigars.

Luncheon guests at the finest roaster of British beef were dumbfounded yesterday when presented with a humidor which contained only Dominican cigars.

Simpson's blamed a hiccup in supply, but there are suspicions of political correctness creeping in here, bearing the stamp of Ramon "Rayon Pajamas" Pajares, general manager of the Savoy Group and an active non-smoker.

"I see William Hague has thrown his hat in the ring"

● *The Labour Party's parliamentary unity was given its first jolt yesterday, before Tony Blair even had a chance to demand that his MPs speak with one voice. As John Prescott ambled to the rostrum in Church House in Westminster, where the party gathered for the first time, MPs clapped, but not quite as one. Clare Short resolutely refused to applaud. She and Prescott used to be good friends, but fell out when she was sacked from her shadow transport job.*

Manor born

THERE will soon be a new addition to Prince William's house at Eton. Parents of boys in Manor House are clubbing together to sponsor a bust of Nigel Jaques, the last housemaster, to stand on the main staircase. Jaques, an classicist OE, ran Manor House from the late 1970s until the early 1990s. Under him it was a nursery for Tory scions, peppered with Douglas-Homes, Hurds and Channons.

Already, busts of St Nicholas, Henry VI and housemasters from the late 19th century stand on the staircase posts. Jaques's gleaming pate and black-rimmed spectacles above an immaculate bow-tie will make an admirable target for whizzing ping-pong balls.

Sincerely

FIFTY years of British variety will be on parade at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday, with the back-to-back funerals of Margery Manners and Hughie Green. Manners, who wowed 'em at the East Ham Palace in London throughout the Fifties, is booked in for 2.30pm, and Hughie is due in at 4pm. A service usually takes just over an hour, without taking into account the extra hugging and reminiscences at old hoofers' funerals. Many of Miss Manners's mourners may well stay seated for Green's last gameshow, which should attract some of those whose careers he launched, from Freddie Starr to Russ Abbott. Separate wakes will be held afterwards.

Margery and Hughie: variety at Golders Green

P·H·S

مكتب امين الاهرام

THE SCOTTISH VOTE

Devolution needs constructive opposition

So impatient were Scots for change that they could not wait until the autumn to show what they thought of the Tories and their inflexible opposition to devolution. On election day, they swept the Conservatives from every cranny of the nation in favour of parties that, in one form or another, supported greater autonomy. With no MPs at Westminster, the Scottish Conservative Party now faces a crisis of identity: it is riven with internal recriminations, anxious whether it should break away from Central Office in London and uncertain how or whether to oppose Labour's constitutional reforms.

Yet precisely because of Labour's enormous majority, the proposals must be opposed. Scots deserve at least to hear both sides of the argument during their referendum campaign. And once the referendum has been held and — as seems overwhelmingly likely — the principle of devolution accepted, there must be constructive debate about the details. It is a pity that the scrutiny will not come before the referendum. For the design of the legislation may determine whether the establishment of a Scottish parliament succeeds.

On Monday, Donald Dewar, the new Scottish Secretary, encouraged constructive criticism of Labour's plans: "that is part of the process and I would certainly want that to be done". But he would not promise that the legislation will, as convention dictates, be taken on the floor of the House of Commons rather than in committee. Indeed the new MP for Cumbernauld and Kilsyth, Rosemary McKenna, was ominous in her words. "With the majority we have everything has changed. Tony Blair will not be bound by convention."

It is when majority governments hold the unchecked power of elective dictatorship that conventions are most necessary. Mr Blair may well have enough MPs to pass laws requiring the slaughter of the first-born, but that makes constructive opposition of legislation all the more vital. If he ignores convention and bulldozes devolution through Parliament, he will be giving notice that the "new" politics are even more arrogant and unaccountable than the old.

The verdict that the Scots gave on May 1 was for devolution within the Union. Although the SNP won more seats, its vote hardly rose. The clear majority was for the Labour and Liberal Democrat case that a Scottish parliament would assuage the nation's resentment and bind it more closely into the United Kingdom. Yet a badly designed Scottish parliament could give succour to the nationalists and boost demands for independence. That is why it is critical that the devolution plans work well.

Some elements in the proposals are sensible. It is good, for example, to use proportional representation so that minority parties, such as the Conservatives, win seats and so that Labour does not have a stranglehold over the parliament. But there are flaws too which have to be addressed.

Tax-raising powers are probably necessary to prevent the assembly being dismissed as meaningless by nationalists. The arbitrary 3p variation, however, may well ferment disenchantment. And Mr Blair's insistence that Labour members will not support a tax rise may encourage Scots to turn to the SNP in frustration. A promise made in the course of an election campaign to deflect Tory "tartan tax" charges may come back to haunt him, particularly if his own MPs threaten to rebel against an edict handed down from Westminster.

But most serious is still the West Lothian question. If unaddressed, this has the potential to rouse English nationalism against the Scots. There must be a quid pro quo for Scottish devolution. Having won his huge majority, Mr Blair can afford to reduce the number of Scottish MPs. And he should look again at public expenditure to ensure that the extra 21 per cent that Scots enjoy over the English really is justified by geography and social need.

UNUSUAL CHANNELS

Broadcasters should let their programmes do the talking

Michael Jackson, the newly-appointed chief executive of Channel 4, has shown himself as fickle as the finger of a multi-channel surfer and as pointedly rude as the raised digit of a Sicilian. He has arrived at his new employers full of bile for his old. Fêted and groomed by the BBC until he became its Director of Television, he chose to accompany the announcement of his defection with an attack on the Corporation for neglecting the young, women and those outside the South-East. Gigolos show more loyalty to their past patrons than Mr Jackson has displayed. How much sharper than the serpent's tooth are the words of this ungrateful young controller.

Yet Mr Jackson is not so much guilty of filial impiety as of shame at his own past. Since Mr Jackson has been the architect of the current BBC schedule his words sound uncannily like the cries of a male, middle-aged metropolitan Caliban catching sight of his reflection on the small screen. They also set another unhappy precedent for a society where adding insult to injury is a practice sharply on the increase.

In politics, departures have been made worse by the manner of some goings. The trauma of leaving the ERM was compounded by the insouciance of ministers who sang in the bath while companies went down the plughole. The defection of Emma Nicholson let loose twin torrents of vitriol, from Ms Nicholson and her former colleagues. The innocent observer was left to wonder why, if she thought so little of this Government, she had tried so hard to join it, and why, if her party thought so ill of her, it had tried to get her into Parliament. Politicians may be faithless, but more fickle by far are the world's unacknowledged legislators. Writers could teach Ms Nicholson and Mr Jackson a great deal about retrospective rubbishing. The publishers and agents who turn coffee-stained manuscripts into minor classics often find themselves, like servants in Samuel Richardson, cast aside and scorned while the talent that they fed moves on. It is unforgivable, but also understandable. Psychologists will recognise the classic response of the betrayer on being unmasked — to blame the betrayed for not being good enough to prevent such straying.

Fortunately, there are still some fields of public life where the hard blow of departure is softened with kind words. When sportsmen leave one team for another, it is customarily with thanks for the opportunities they have been offered with their old outfit. Even those, like Paul Gascoigne, whose charm is unschooled rather than old school have always paid tribute to their former teammates.

It is expected that most players will be gentlemen but even in fashion, a world where bitchiness is as de rigueur as Blahnik, it still isn't done to stick the stiletto into the organisation one is leaving. In the recent game of couture leapfrog in Paris, British designers stepped into each others' loafers with sincere expressions of respect. Genius knows it need not diminish others to flourish itself. Mr Jackson, a talented man of television, should let his programmes, and the ratings, do the talking.

PRIDE OF THE PROM

The BBC Proms are a model of how all concert series should be

Nobody begrudged the BBC a triumphalist note yesterday as it fanfared its plans for the 1997 Proms in the Albert Hall. Last year's season attracted record crowds to a record number of concerts. They included such novelties as a Junior Prom and the "Prom in the Park", an event which confounded the sceptics by attracting 26,000 people to hear orchestral music in Hyde Park on a cold September evening.

This year Nicholas Kenyon, the Proms director, promises that "the world's greatest music festival" will spread "wider still and wider". That sounds boastful, but his claim is well supported by the season he has unveiled. At a time when classical concerts are struggling to recruit new audiences, the Proms continue to attract thousands of young music-lovers by virtue of their remarkably low ticket prices and the huge span of music covered every summer.

A gallery season-ticket to all 73 Proms this season costs just £95 — or rather less than the price of one stalls seat for an average night at Covent Garden. That season ticket opens a window on a world of infinite musical variety and splendour: from the sacred glories of Tudor motets to the decadent satire of Kurt Weill; from the profundity of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* to a quaintly nostalgic revival of Frank Zappa's *The Yellow Shark*.

The senior statesmen of the classical world — Solti, Haitink, Brendel, Marriner — all play their part. But so do a host of bright new figures, eager to make their name in concerts renowned worldwide. American minimalists, Georgian folk-singers, big bands, close-harmony crooners and cathedral choirs mingle with venerable orchestras from Leipzig and Amsterdam, Budapest and St Petersburg. There will be 30 first performances, but also anniversary celebrations of Schubert, Brahms and Mendelssohn. Pierre Boulez is in, but so is Cleo Laine.

Ultimately, however, it is not the performers who make the Proms special. It is the audience. Last year Kurt Masur, conductor of the New York Philharmonic, was asked how musical life in New York could be improved. "I wish we could steal the Proms from London," he replied. "The atmosphere is like nothing else." That is the Proms' defining quality. Prommers queue for hours each day, then stand throughout the concert, packed tightly into a sweltering arena. Yet physical discomfort is forgotten when the music starts. No audience is quieter or more absorbed; no cheer more thrilling than the roar which rises from the Prommers after some tremendous symphony.

More than a century after the conductor Sir Henry Wood launched his cheap concert seasons for ordinary people, the classical music world still has not overturned the elitist image which troubled that visionary Victorian. "Old Timber" would have been saddened by that. But the fact that his Proms are still held up as a model of how *all* concert series should be, all the time, would surely have made him proud.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Trade and popular consent within European Union

From Mr E. D. L. Price

Sir, If I were the leader of a European nation which was in, or just recovering from, a disastrous recession, and I was suddenly given the opportunity to impose higher employment costs on another European nation that had consistently lower employment costs, I would gleefully seize that opportunity with both hands and declare that it was "in the interests of European unity". In reality I would be defending my own nation's interests and redressing perceived competitive advantages.

The UK has some of the lowest non-wage costs of employment in Europe. The social chapter is designed to "harmonise" the social standards throughout the EU. I accept that only three measures have been passed under this chapter, but it would be naive for the UK Government to expect that it will be able to prevent other EU nations from trying to impose higher non-wage costs on UK employers using qualified majority voting.

Rather than sign up to the social chapter now, the Government would be better advised to declare that it would implement all those provisions passed under the social chapter for the other 14 nations while reserving the right to use the "opt-out", if that became necessary.

If, after a period of time, the social chapter had only been used in a genuine attempt to protect social standards, rather than in an attempt to redress perceived competitive advantages, then, using full signature to that chapter as a bargaining chip, the UK Government would be in a strong position to persuade the other EU nations to reform the disastrous agricultural and/or fisheries policies.

Yours sincerely,
EVAN D. L. PRICE,
32 Hampstead Grove, NW3.
May 6.

From Mr Tim Butler

Sir, So, just four days into the new Government and the EU is telling us that it is "not happy with the Government's pledge" to cut VAT on domestic fuel (report, May 7). What is the point of holding elections if the winners can't do what they've promised to do?

May I suggest we either abolish elections altogether and hope that Mr Santer and his successors will always be benign rulers, or we hold a referendum about who governs us. At least then we will know who actually is the government — the one we elect, or the one we can't.

Yours sincerely,
TIM BUTLER,
87 High Street,
Markyate, Hertfordshire.
May 7.

From the Editor of Intelligence Digest

Sir, Britain has just witnessed an awesome demonstration of democracy at work. An unpopular government, after 18 years in power, has been dismissed in dramatic style.

Whatever the reasons for the verdict, good and not-so-good, logical and not-so-logical, the electorate undeniably had the right to act the way it did. But were the combined peoples of the EU to reach a similar conclusion about the government of the EU, how could they perform a comparable exercise in democratic cleansing?

Yours faithfully,
JOE de COURCY,
Editor, *Intelligence Digest*,
Intelligence International Ltd,
The Stoneyhill Centre,
Brimpsfield, Gloucestershire.
May 5.

From the Co-Editor of eurofacts

Sir, Sir Roy Denman (letter, May 5) would have us believe that 11 European member states could shortly gain "greater stability, lower interest rates, higher growth" from being in EMU; that from staying out of EMU Britain might seem to be gaining "a competitive advantage which their tighter discipline forbids"; that there is a danger that our irate partners may find our "wages or taxes dangerously competitive", in which case "they will surcharge our exports (social and fiscal dumping)". Finally, disaster will ensue, with massive disinvestment, lost exports and lost jobs.

This scenario is unconvincing. Rejecting EMU may improve or weaken Britain's prospects: it cannot simultaneously do both. Our wages are already higher than French and Italian wages, and if Sir Roy thinks that our partners are going to break Community law and infringe world trading rules by surcharging their best export market, then his opinion of their morality and their sanity is low indeed.

As for "fiscal dumping", Sir Roy presumably advocates increased British taxation, not for budgetary reasons but to ward off European retaliation. What can be the logic in believing that Britain's competitive economy is so resented by our fellow-Europeans that they will stop at nothing to punish us, to the point of illegality and self-inflicted damage?

Yours faithfully,
K. G. CARSON,
Co-Editor, *eurofacts*,
PO Box 9984, London W12 8WZ.
May 5.

From Lord Mackenzie-Stuart

Sir, The hoary canard that the European Court of Justice is political (letter, May 5) is nonsense. In 16 years I worked at the court with over forty judges and advocates general. The statistical improbability of such an assorted bunch having a consistent political view is evident.

The European Community is an intensely political concept and its rules are made by politicians. The court's function is to interpret what the politicians have decided. As that very wise Dutch judge, Andre Donner, said to me long ago:

> While the Court is apolitical, it occasionally has to remind the Member States of the obligations they have entered into.

As regards Mr John Deas's letter (May 5), I agree that political union without popular consent is no reliable bulwark against war. I would have thought that the election results in Britain demonstrated that popular consent for the aims of the European Union remained. One can support those aims without endorsing all its activities.

Yours faithfully,
MACKENZIE-STUART
(President, Court of Justice of the European Communities, 1984-88),
Le Garidel, Gravières,
07140 Les Vans, France.
May 5.

From Mr D. P. Marchessini

Sir, It is quite true that Norway is "an integral part" of the Common Market (it wishes to be) and that it is subject to most of the directives of the European Commission. But, as Dr Neville March Hunnings admits in a parenthesis (letter, April 30), the Norwegians are not bound to the EU as regards agriculture, fisheries and, of course, the single currency.

These are three very important points, and they cannot be dismissed as irrelevant. Furthermore, being a much bigger country than Norway, the UK would undoubtedly be able to negotiate even better terms than Norway has done.

Dr Hunnings also suggests that if we follow the Swiss path by withdrawing completely from the European Union, we would be in the same position as "Brazil or India or Australia or Canada" (he could have added the United States). Well, what is wrong with that? The Swiss continue to trade with the EU, and so do the United States and Canada.

Although we have a trade surplus with the rest of the world, we have a trade deficit with Europe. It is therefore very much in the interest of the EU to continue to trade with us, regardless whether we are members or not. In short, to use Dr Hunnings's phrase, we can certainly have our cake and eat it, too.

Yours faithfully,
D. P. MARCHESSINI,
Marchessini & Co. Ltd,
Kingsbury House,
15/17 King Street, St James's, SW1.
May 1.

One-nation state?

From the Reverend Dr T. Bradshaw

Sir, Does the domination of the major offices of State by one nationality square with new Labour's politically correct value system, and is it not a matter for the Commission for Racial Equality to investigate?

Yours faithfully,
TIM BRADSHAW,
54 St Giles, Oxford.
May 6.

Lib-Dem legacy

From Professor B. K. Ridley, FRS

Sir, While it is perfectly understandable that the people should return Labour with a thumping majority after five years of unstimulating Tory rule, it is incomprehensible that so many voted Lib-Dem, whose principal distinguishing feature in power, albeit at the local level, is covering the roads with graffiti and bumps.

Yours faithfully,
B. K. RIDLEY,
Michaelmas Gate,
Mill Lane, Thorpe-Le-Soken, Essex.
May 4.

Radio poll

From Dr D. G. Wilson

Sir, My wife has identified a serious deficit in our democratic process. Enlivened by the complete change of government effected by the general election, we are nevertheless daily assaulted by the same old presenters on *Today* and *The World at One*.

Could not the BBC arrange for us all to vote for a new team?

Yours faithfully,
TIM WILSON,
9 Banhams Close, Cambridge.
May 6.

Against the tide

From Mr Paul McCrudden

Sir, Your results table is wrong (May 3) to claim that there was no Conservative gain at the general election. Stratford-upon-Avon is pleased to be represented by a Conservative MP once again.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL McCRUDDEN,
1 The Pinfold, Tiddington,
Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Aid for Zaire

From the Director of Oxfam

Sir, Mr Hugh Jones (letter, May 2) is correct to say that the insensitive provision of aid can exacerbate tensions between local people and refugees. However, I cannot agree with his assertion that aid agencies seem so intent on the welfare of refugees that the plight of poverty-striken Zaireans may be overlooked.

Oxfam has worked alongside poor people in Zaire for more than 30 years. That work has been deeply rooted in a dynamic partnership with local Zaireans battling their way out of grinding poverty. Even when we launched a massive aid effort to keep hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees alive we continued our work with local Zaireans. That work has now expanded.

Aid agencies did not prevent refugees returning home two years ago. Along with UNHCR and other agencies Oxfam consistently called for the disarming of the militias and the former Rwandan Army, who were preventing the refugees from returning home. Our calls were never heeded.

To claim that "one man's refugee from oppression is another man's fugitive from justice" is both simplistic and dangerous. Most of the refugees in Zaire are women and children who have been used as human shields by their leaders. Denying these people aid because of the "sins of their fathers" would be a gross injustice.

Yes, amongst the refugees in Zaire are those guilty of genocide who must be brought to justice. But justice should be administered in courts, not in the forests of eastern Zaire.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BRYER,
Director, Oxfam UK and Ireland,
274 Banbury Road, Oxford.
May 2.

British beef

From Mr Peter Dalheimer

Sir, Surely Mr D. T. Y. Curry, Chairman of the Meat and Livestock Commission (letter, May 2), should, in the interest of the meat industry, outline in detail how the "high standards of beef production" in Britain are put into practice. The European consumer is still not reassured. Nor is the British consumer convinced that such standards are actually adhered to.

Mr Curry rightly believes that Britain should — as part of the EU — be able to export its beef without trade barriers. This principle applies to all European beef producers. I am sure Mr Franz Fischler, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, is keen to listen to substantiated claims about the supposed inferiority of beef imported into the UK. It would help the meat industry in Britain if Mr Curry would convincingly demonstrate that adherence to standards is rigorously and effectively policed.

I understand the Labour Party have long proposed the setting up of an independent authority concerned with the implementation of agreed standards in all elements of the meat industry — from the farmer to the butcher. This would gain the respect of the European consumer and enable the resumption of exports as a quality partner in Europe.

Yours faithfully,
P. DALHEIMER,
31 Church Road, Bow Brickhill,
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.
May 2.

School inspections

From Mr Mike Douse

Sir, In order to reduce teacher stress, the Reverend Simon Foulkes (letter, May 5) proposes that schools should be subjected to "unannounced inspections". I have long felt that an alternative approach might be to tell, say, 1,000 schools that they *might* be inspected in, say, six months' time and in the event to inspect only, say, ten. Probably this could only be done once.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE DOUSE (Author,
Ofsted and Onward, CfBT Education Services, Reading, 1996),
4 Launceston Terrace,
Norwich, Norfolk.
May 5.

From the Reverend Peter Cheesman

Sir, Mr Foulkes makes a good point.

I am a governor of two schools: one has had an inspection; the other awaits a date for an inspection. Anxiety and disruption are unnecessary features of both events.

It used to be said that the auditor was a "watchdog, not a bloodhound". The perception is that Ofsted is a "bloodhound, not a watchdog" with an implied purpose to hunt down its guilty quarry.

Yours faithfully,
P. CHEESMAN,
The Vicarage,
Frampton-on-Severn,
Gloucestershire.
May 5.

Venice faces a possible disaster

From the Chairman of the Venice in Peril Fund

Sir, Just over 30 years ago, on November 4-5, 1966, Venice faced the worst floods, and with them the greatest physical danger, in all its history. The city is now confronted by a new threat, potentially still more catastrophic.

The Italian oil and gas company Agip has applied for government permission to drill for natural gas in the bed of the northern Adriatic. Such further exploitation of the region may well induce serious subsidence, both in and around the Venetian lagoon and beneath Venice itself.

In the past century, owing largely to the rise in sea level and the extraction of water in neighbouring Porto Marghera during the 1950s and 60s, the city has already sunk 21cm; the College of Engineers in the Veneto — who understand the situation as well as anyone alive — believe, on the basis of previous experience offshore from Ravenna and in the Po estuary, that the proposed exploitation might eventually cause subsidence of another 30cm which, they rightly maintain, would mean the death of Venice and Chioggia.

The college also challenges the company's claim that any subsidence in the area could be corrected by the injection of sea water. Nowhere in the world has such technology been attempted in similar conditions. In an area as sensitive and vulnerable as the Venetian lagoon, where land and sea already maintain a uniquely delicate balance, any intervention on the scale proposed could trigger off a geological and hydrological chain reaction, the consequences of which are unforeseeable but might easily be disastrous.

Such a risk cannot be taken.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN JULIUS NORWICH,
Chairman,
The Venice in Peril Fund,
Suite 2-3, Morley House,
314-322 Regent Street, W1.
May 6.

Politics and farmers

From Mr Montague Keen

Sir, Mr P. C. Thompson is right to say (letter, May 3) that the National Farmers' Union supported Conservative MPs between the two world wars; but by the end of the Second World War that had ceased to be the case.

As head of the NFU's parliamentary and legal department from 1957 to 1969, I also spent a few minutes annually as secretary of its political fund committee, in which capacity I made it clear that the fund would be used only over my dead body to sponsor MPs — a view which had been taken by my predecessor (John F. Phillips, QC) in the previous postwar years.

It was this policy that helped to ensure cordial relations between the NFU and all the main political parties.

The political fund, established in the desolate years which followed the sudden abandonment of agricultural support shortly after the First World War, was used to support only a handful of MPs. It disappeared long ago.

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGUE KEEN,
School Barn Farm,
Pentlow,
Sudbury, Suffolk.
May 3.

Left, right, left . . .

From Mr Peter Wade

Sir, Don't you just hate those pedantic military buffs who lead such sad lives that they have to nitpick over details?

Your picture of Helen Baxendale as the lesbian military policewoman in the Channel 4 film *The Investigator* (Television choice, May 6) shows her with her beret on incorrectly.

As any schoolboy knows, the British Army has its badge over the left eye. If in fact you got the picture round the wrong way you are in good company. *Soldier* magazine recently apologised for doing something similar. They, of course, have no excuse.

Yours pedantically,
P. R. WADE,
70 Heath Road,
Lexden, Colchester, Essex.
May 6.

Hogging the road

From Mr A. J. Potter

Sir, I commend to Mr Robert Mudie (letter, May 6) the adage: "Patience is a virtue we admire in the driver behind but abhor in the driver in front."

Yours faithfully,
A. J. POTTER,
51 Langdon Street,
Tring, Hertfordshire.
May 6.

From Mr J. B. Gough

Sir, There are only three types of drivers — those that go too slow, those that go too fast, and oneself.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. GOUGH,
5 Ditchling Road,
Brighton, East Sussex.
May 6.

COURT CIRCULAR

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 6: The Prince of Wales today visited Northern Ireland and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Antrim (the Lord O'Neill).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the North Belfast Mission Housing Society, Carrickfergus, met local residents and officially opened the Wesley Court Sheltered Housing Complex.

The Prince of Wales afterwards visited the Windsor Women's Centre for education and retraining in South Belfast and met members of the local residents' association.

His Royal Highness later visited the David Keir Building at The Queen's University of Belfast and opened the Questor Centre for environmental research.

The Prince of Wales, President, this evening opened the new Waterfront Hall, Belfast, attended a Civic Reception and charity concert performance in aid of The Prince's Trust and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast (Colonel Elliott Wilson).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 7: Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns was received by The Queen this morning upon his appointment as Chief of the Air Staff.

The Governor-General of Grenada was received by The Queen when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

Lady Williams was also received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Mr Lode Willems was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Kingdom of Belgium to the Court of St James's. Mrs Willems was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

Sir Nigel Broomfield, Sir Patrick Fairweather, Sir Christopher Mallaby, Sir David Miers and Sir Anthony Reeve were received by The Queen upon their retirement from the Diplomatic Service.

Lady Broomfield, Lady Fairweather, Lady Mallaby and Lady Miers were also received by Her Majesty.

The Rt Hon Sir George Young, Bt (Secretary of State for Transport) and the Viscount Cranborne (Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords) had audiences of The Queen this afternoon and took leave upon relinquishing their appointments.

The following were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon relinquishing their appointments: Sir Derek Harold Spencer (Solicitor General) and Mr Paul Cullen (Solicitor General for Scotland).

The Lord Strathclyde had an audience of The Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Captain of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms and delivered up his Stick of Office.

The Lord Chesham was received by Her Majesty upon relinquishing his appointment as Captain of The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard and delivered up his Stick of Office.

Viscount Long, the Lord Lucas of Crudwell and the Earl of Courtown were received by The Queen upon relinquishing their appointments as Lords in Waiting to Her Majesty.

The Baroness Trumpington and the Baroness Miller of Hendon were received by The Queen upon relinquishing their appointments as Baronesses in Waiting to Her Majesty.

Mr Andrew Mackay had an audience of The Queen and delivered up his Wand of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Treasurer of the Household.

Mr Timothy Wood was received by Her Majesty and delivered up his Wand of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Comptroller of the Household.

Mr Derek Conway was received by The Queen and delivered up his Wand of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

The Allied Air Force Chaplains were received by Her Majesty and remained to Tea.

The following were received in farewell audience by The Queen this evening and took leave upon relinquishing their appointments: the Rt Hon Alastair Goodlad (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Whip), the Baroness Chalker of Wallasey (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Minister for Overseas Development), the Rt Hon Jeremy Hanley (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Bt (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office), the Rt Hon David Davis (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office), the Rt Hon David Maclean (Minister of State, Home Office), the Baroness Blatch (Minister of State, Home Office), the Rt Hon Ann Widdecombe (Minister of State, Home Office), the Rt Hon Michael Jack (Financial Secretary to the Treasury), the Lord Fraser of Carmyllie (Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry; Minister for Energy), Mr Anthony Nelson (Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry; Minister for Trade), the Rt Hon Greg Knight (Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry; Minister for Industry), Mr James Arbuthnot (Minister of State for Defence Procurement, Ministry of Defence), the Hon Nicholas Soames (Minister of State for the Armed Forces, Ministry of Defence), the Earl Ferrers (Minister of State, Department of the Environment; Minister for the Environment and Countryside), Mr Robert Jones (Minister of State, Department of the Environment; Minister for Construction, Planning and Energy Efficiency), the Rt Hon David Curry (Minister of State, Department of the Environment; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Urban Regeneration), the Lord Mackay of Ardbrecknish (Minister of State, Department of Social Security), Mr Tony Baldry (Minister of State and Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), Lord James Douglas-Hamilton (Minister of State, Scottish Office; Minister for Home Affairs and Health), the Rt Hon Sir John Wheeler (Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office), the Rt Hon Michael Ancram (Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office), Mr Gerald Malone (Minister of State, Department of Health; Minister for Health), the Rt Hon Eric Forth (Minister of State, Department for Education and Employment), the Lord Henley (Minister of State, Department for Education and Employment), Mr John Watts (Minister of State, Department of Transport; Minister for Railways and Roads), Mr Iain Sproat (Minister of State, Department of National Heritage; Minister for Sport).

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member, Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, this morning presented The Prince Philip Award for 1996 and Certificates of Merit for Research and Development in the Field of Dairy Farming, at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, today attended Receptions at St James's Palace for Young People who have achieved the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this evening attended a Reception for the Air League at St James's Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 7: The Prince Edward this evening attended a Reception and Concert given by the London Symphony Orchestra in the Barbican Hall, London EC2.

May 7: The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, this morning attended the Industry Committee Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, President, Animal Health Trust, later attended the Council of Management Meeting at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, London W1.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, attended the Memorial Service for Mr Nicholas Hinton which was held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, London SW1, this afternoon.

Her Royal Highness this evening attended the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers' Court Ladies Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, London EC4.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 7: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Royal Anthropological Institute, this morning visited the offices at 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1.

His Royal Highness, President, Christ's Hospital, this evening attended a Reception followed by Beat Retreat at Her Majesty's Tower of London.

YORK HOUSE
May 7: The Duke of Kent this morning visited the Wessex Neurological Unit, Southampton General Hospital, Southampton, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

His Royal Highness, President, the Scout Association, this afternoon visited the Lyons Copse Activity Centre, Lyons Copse, Shedfield, Hampshire.

The Duke of Kent this evening presented the Royal Philharmonic Society's Annual Music Awards at the Dorchester Hotel, London W1.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 7: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this evening attended a Reception in aid of the League of Friends of the Royal Marsden NHS Trust at the Mansion House, London EC4.

Buckingham Palace luncheon

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh held a luncheon party at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

The guests were:
Ms Judy McKnight (general secretary, National Association of Probation Officers), Professor Sarah Springman (Professor of Geotechnical Engineering, Institute fur Geotechnik, Zurich), Mr John Baker (chairman, National Power), Sir Alistair Grant (chairman, Scottish and Newcastle), Mr Michael Kenny (treasurer, Royal Academy), Professor John Lawton, FRS (director, National Environment Research Council Centre for Population Biology), Professor Robert O'Neill (Chichele Professor of the History of War, Oxford University) and Vice-Admiral Sir Jonathan Tod (Deputy Commander Fleet).

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will attend a reception at the Caledonian Club, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Royal Tour to South Africa in *HMS Vanguard* at noon.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee, will preside at a meeting of the trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Buckingham Palace at 10.00; as Patron, Outward Bound Trust, and Gold Card Holder, Variety Club of Great Britain, will attend a sports award luncheon at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 12.15. Later, as President and Honorary Life Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, will preside at the 1997 Prince Philip lecture and attend a dinner at 8 John Adam Street, London WC2 at 5.50.

The Princess Royal will open Heywood House, the Lord Mayor Treloar School, Upper Froyle, Alton, Hampshire, at 11.00; will visit Marwell Zoological Park, Colden Common, Winchester at 12.30; and will open a new Indoor Riding School, The Peter Ashley Equestrian Centre, Ford Widley, Portsmouth at 2.00.

Princess Margaret, as President, will attend a gala concert to mark the 125th anniversary of the Royal Choral Society at Royal Albert Hall at 7.15 in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The Duke of Gloucester will open Nutgrove Primary School, St Helen's, Lancashire, at 11.27; will open the Flexible Learning Centre at St Helen's College at 12.20; will visit Stoves plc, Prescot, at 2.25; and, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, will visit the Cardiothoracic Centre, Liverpool, at 4.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the Eye Department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary and Associated Hospitals NHS Trust, Queen Victoria Road at Newcastle upon Tyne at 12.05; and will visit the Marie Curie Cancer Care Centre, Marie Curie Drive, at 1.45.

Princess Alexandra will attend a City luncheon given by the Friends of Templeton College at the Gibson Hall, Bishopsgate, London EC2 at 12.45; and as President, will attend the annual court of the Royal Humane Society at Lettsom House, 11 Chandos Street, London W1 at 3.15.

Memorial service

Mr Nicholas Hinton
The Princess Royal attended a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Nicholas Hinton, charity administrator, held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey.

Canon Donald Gray officiated and the Bishop of Sherwood led the prayers. Baroness Chalker of Wallasey read the lesson. Mr Barnaby Jenkins, nephew, read *Of the death of Sir Thomas Wyatt* by Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey and Professor Charles Handy read *Prelude 26* by Stephen Spender. Mr Tom Burke and the Hon William Shawcross gave addresses.

The Rev David Evans, Canon Anthony Hawley, the Rev Christopher Moody, the Rev Richard Podger, the Rev Lyle Dennen, the Rev Paul Rose and the Rev Roger Holloway were robed and seated in the Sanctuary.

The Secretary General of the United Nations was represented by Mr Alexander Borg Olivier, Director of the United Nations Information Centre, London, and the Vice-President of India was represented by Mr Pavan Kapoor. Among others present were:

Mrs Hinton (widow), Miss Josephine Hinton (daughter), Mr and Mrs Anthony Jenkins (brother-in-law and sister), the Hon Mrs Douglas Vivian (mother-in-law), Mr and Mrs Ben Goodden and Mr and Mrs Charles Dimpfl (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), Mrs Eugenie Burne and Mrs Victoria Craig (sisters-in-law), Mr Oliver Jenkins, Miss Lucy Burne, Mr and Mrs Rupert Norman, Mr Jason Norman, Miss Melissa Norman, Miss Francesca Dimpfl, Miss Daisy Dimpfl, Miss Nancy-Alice Dimpfl, Mrs Lyle Dennen, Mr and the Hon Mrs Charles Wilson, Mr and Mrs Aubrey Calcutt, Major and Mrs Ian Farquhar, Mr Francis Farquhar, Dr and Mrs Peter Honey, Mr J D Howard-Johnston, Mr Richard Craig, the Marquess of Bath, Mr and Mrs A A Bridgewater, Mr Malcolm Borthwick, Brigadier Lord Vivian, Mr Johnny Becher, Mr and Mrs Timothy Jackson.

Earl and Countess Cairns, the Earl of Sandwich, the Earl and Countess of Winchilsea and Nottingham, Viscount Boyd of Merton, Viscount and Viscountess Hood, Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, QC, Lord and Lady Cobbold, Lord Cunliffe, Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Baroness Eccles of Moulton, Lady Herries of Terregles, Lord Holme of Cheltenham, Lady Howe of Aberavon.

Baroness Jay of Paddington, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM, Lord Judd, Lady Prior (chairman of the governors, United World College of the Atlantic), Lord Richard, QC, and Lady Richard, Baroness Serota, Lord Tordoff, Lord and Lady Williams of Elvel, Lord and Lady Wilson of Tillyorn, Lord Wolverton.

Sir David Steel, Mrs Richard Ryder, Ms Clare Short (Secretary of State for International Development), Mr Paddy Ashdown, MP, and Mrs Ashdown, the Hon Peter Brooke, CH, MP, Mr Alastair Goodlad, MP, and Mrs Goodlad, the Hon Mrs Susan Baring, the Hon Alex Howe, the Hon Alastair and Mrs Hoyer Millar, the Hon Alice Jay, the Hon Peter and Mrs Jay, the Hon Mrs Pearson, the Hon Mrs William Shawcross, the Hon Mrs Spring, the Hon Mrs Peter Ward, Sir Dermot and Lady de Trafford.

Sir Michael Bett (chair, Save the Children Fund) and Lady Bett with Lady Cecil Cameron (deputy chair), and many other members of the fund from the United Kingdom and overseas.

Sir Tim and Lady Bell, Sir David Calcutt, QC, and Lady Calcutt, the Rev Professor Owen Chadwick, OM, KBE, FBA (Selwyn College, Cambridge) with Professor William Brock and the Rev Dr John Sweet; Sir Terence Clark, Sir Michael Day, Sir Geoffrey and Lady de Deney, Dame Janet Fookes, Sir William Goodhart, QC, and Lady Goodhart, Sir Jeremy and Lady Isaacs, Lady (Brian) Neill, Lady Pullen, Sir David and Lady Scholey, Professor Sir Eric and Lady Stroud, Lady Tumim (chair, NCVO), Sir Ian Wrigglesworth, Sir Paul Wright.

Mr Walter Aylen, QC, and Mrs Aylen, Mrs D Backhouse, Mr Richard Baker, Mrs L Balfour-Paul, Mr Chris Ball, Mr John Barton, Miss G Bickford-Smith, Mr and Mrs M Boland, Mr Peter Bottomley, MP, and Mrs Virginia Bottomley, MP, Mrs D Brooke, Professor Ian Bruce, Mr and Mrs Lindsay Bury, Mr Nick Butler, Mr Nicholas Deakin, Mrs M Edelman, Commander T K Evans RN, Mrs Anthony Everett, Dr Tony Flower, Mr and Mrs Michael Frye.

Judge and Mrs S A Goldstein, Mrs Douglas Guest, Mrs Charles Handy, Mr M R Harris, Dr Harriet Harvey Wood, Mr and Mrs Ian Hay Davison, Dr and Mrs Michael Hinton, Mrs Ronald Hoare, Mr E C Hodgkin, Ms Margaret Hyde, Mr Robert Key, MP, Mr and Mrs Robert Kilroy-Silk, Mr Christopher Lucas, Mr Peter Luff, MP, Mr Robert Maclennan, MP, and Mrs Maclennan, Mrs Margaret Mair, Mr Paul Martin.

Mr and Mrs Tony Morgan, Mr and Mrs Michael Moriarty, Professor and Mrs Peter Mortimore, Mr and Mrs Martin Neary, Professor Anthony and Rabbi Julia Neuberger, Mr and Mrs Patrick O'Ryan-Roeder, Mr W J Oxenbury, Mr Christopher Parsons, Mr Denis Peach, Mr R W Phillips, Mr Hayden Phillips, Mr Andrew Phillips, Mrs Robin Porteous, Ms Usha Prashar, Mr Simon Preston, Mr Hamish Preston, Dr Andrew Purkis, Mr Luke Rittner, Mr C Romer-Lee.

Mr Andrew Ross, Professor Andrew Rutherford, Mr and Mrs Anthony Sampson, Dr Richard Seal, Mr Jack Shapiro, Mr Tony Smythe, Mr and Mrs J David Stephen, Ms Vivien Stern, Mr Liam Strong, Miss H Walter, Ms Diana Warwick, Mrs Wilf Weeks, Dr Michael Wilks, Mr and Mrs Martin Williams, Mr Anthony Wingate, Mr Tim Yeo, MP, the Rev Nicholas Stacey, Mrs Christopher Moody, Mrs David Evans, Mrs Richard Podger.

Mr T D Wheare (headmaster, Bryanston School), Mrs A M Holyoak (Principal, Queen's Gate School) with Mrs N Webb and Miss E Wynne-Lloyd; Mr Mike Whitlam (director-general, British Red Cross), Mr Ben Whitaker (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation) and Mrs Whitaker, Ms Jill Pitkeathley (Carers Nationals Association), Mr Neil McIntosh (Centre for British Teachers), Mr Richard Fries (Chief Charity Commissioner) with Ms Tessa Baring and Ms Lynne Berry.

Mr David Grubb and Mr Mark McKeown (Children's Aid Direct), Ms Amanda Horton-Mastin (Comic Relief), Mr Jamie McCaul (Disasters Emergency Committee), Mr A E Leach (Inner London Probation Service), Ms Sue Blackmore (executive secretary, International Crisis Group) with other members of the group.

Ms Kathleen Duncan (Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales), Mr Colin Glover (London Connection), Mr Stephen O'Brien and Ms Sharon Welch (London First), Ms June McKerrow (Mental Health Foundation), Mr Anthony Christopher (chairman, NACRO) with Ms Helen Edwards and Ms Jean Lyons, Ms Andrea Cook (National Energy Action Charity), Mr Timothy Hornsby (National Lottery Charities Board).

Mr Bharat Mehta (National Schizophrenia Fellowship), Mrs Dorothy Jessop (administrator, Northrope Hall Child and Family Trust) also representing the chair of trustees, Mr Mike Taylor (NSPCC), Mr Barrie Ireton and Mr Andrew Bearpark (Overseas Development Administration), Dr Nicholas Maurice (Oxfam), Mr Paul Cavadino (Penal Affairs Consortium), Mr R A M Forrest (Reform Club), Mrs Prue Leith and Ms Peny Egan (RSA).

Mr Clive Turner (chief executive, Stonham Housing Association) with Mr Andrew Painton and other members of the association; Mr Leslie Atherley (director, Culture of Peace Programme, UNESCO) also representing the director-general of UNESCO, M Philippe Lavanchy (United Nations High Commission for Refugees), Ms Suzanne Long (UN Association), Mr A M Dewar-Durie (Allied Distillers) and Mrs Dewar-Durie, Mr John Gardiner (Laird Group) and Mrs Gardiner, representatives of CAFOD, Hampshire Council of Community Service Company and many other friend from the UK and overseas.

Receptions

The Air League
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of The Air League, was received by Lord Tebbit, CH, president, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Knight, chairman at the annual reception held last night at St James's Palace.

During the reception he installed Lord Kings Norton and Sir Arthur Marshall as Companions of the Air League, awarded the Founders' Medal to Sir Colin Marshall, the Jeffrey Quill Medal to Mr Alex Henshaw, the Scott-Farnie award to Mr Terry Gill, the IMPAC award to Mr Paul Greer and also presented awards to the winners of flying scholarships and bursaries.

The Pilgrims
Lord Carrington, KG, president, welcomed members and their guests at the spring reception of the Pilgrims held yesterday at the House of Commons.

Lord Mayhew

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Mayhew will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Thursday, June 12, 1997. All are welcome, and those wishing to attend are requested to apply for tickets, for this service only, to: The Rector's Secretary, Room 12, 1 Little Cloister, Westminster Abbey, SW1P 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be posted from June 2.

Mr Denis Compton

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Denis Compton will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Tuesday, July 1. Those wishing to attend are asked to apply in writing, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 1, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA. Tickets will be posted by June 17. All are welcome to apply for tickets.

Butterstone School

Former pupils who have not received information about the celebration of the school's 50th Anniversary on May 23-25 are asked to telephone 01828 640528 for further details.

Sir David Attenborough, CH, the naturalist, is 71

Birthdays today

Lord Blyth of Rowington, 57; Sir Philip Carter, former chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation, 70; Mr Jack Charlton, football manager, 62; Sir Anthony Dawson, former Physician to the Queen, 69; Sir Ian Denholm, former president, General Council of British Shipping, 70; Miss Viviana Durante, ballerina, 30; Viscount Falkland, 62; Miss Heather Harper, soprano, 67; Lord Justice Hoffmann, 63; Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, 72; Mr D.W. Kendall, former chairman, Meyer International, 62; Mr Roger Kendrick, former Governor, Dartmoor prison, 63; Mr Norman Lamont, former MP, 55; Father Graham Leonard, KCVO, former Bishop of London, 76; Mr Maurice Lindsay, chief executive, Rugby Football League, 56; Dame Felicity Lott, soprano, 50; Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, 83; Admiral Sir Neville Purvis, 61; Mr Dennis Scard, trade unionist, 54; Mr Johnny Searle, rower, 28; Mr Alastair Service, chairman, Wiltshire Health Authority, 64; Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons, 60; Mr David Sole, rugby player, 35; Mr Nicholas Vigors, racehorse trainer, 50; Mr Justice Waterhouse, 71.

University news

Oxford
Oriel College
The following elections have been made:
To a scholarship: Thomas Charles Macmillan (geography), formerly of Eton College
To an exhibition: William James Daniels (classics), formerly of the London Oratory

Luncheons

City Livery Club
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guests at a luncheon of the City Livery Club held yesterday at Merchant Taylors' Hall. Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo presided.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Sir John Egan, Chairman of London Tourist Board, were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at Westminster City Hall for the Ambassadors for London Club. Mr Paul Hopper, Director of the London Tourist Board, Mr Alec McGivan, Director of the World Cup 2006 Campaign, Mr Stephen O'Brien, Chief Executive of London First/London First Centre, and Mr Paul Sergeant, Stadium Director of Wembley, were the speakers. Representatives of the theatre, finance industry, entertainment, hotels, leisure and travel and allied organisations were among those present.

Newspaper Society
Mr Robin Burgess, President of the Newspaper Society, was the host at the annual luncheon held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane after the annual meeting. Sir Christopher Bland, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the BBC, was the guest of honour and speaker. Among others present were:
Lord Inglewood, Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank, Sir Norman Fowler, MP, the Hon Sir Richard Storey, the Hon V J R Baring, Sir David English, Mr Chris Oakley (senior vice-president) and Mrs Oakley, Mrs Burgess, Mr Charles Brims (junior vice-president), Sir Ray Tindle, Mr David Newell and Canon John Oates.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean Henri Dunant, founder of the International Red Cross, Geneva, 1828; Harry S. Truman, 33rd American President 1945-53, Lamar, Missouri, 1884; Sidney James, actor, Johannesburg, 1914; Sonny Liston, boxer, Arkansas, 1932.

DEATHS: John Stuart Mill, philosopher, Avignon, 1873; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, Croisset, France, 1880; Paul Gauguin, painter, Atuana, Marquesas Islands, 1903; Harry Gordon Selfridge, founder of the London store, London, 1947; Emmanuel Shinwell, Baron Shinwell, statesman, London, 1986.

The British monarchy was restored, 1660.

In the first international yacht race, Bermudan boat *Pearl* beat the American *Brenda*, 1849.

VE (Victory in Europe) Day, 1945.

Service dinner

The London Scottish Regiment
Colonel R.D. Holliday, Regimental Colonel of The London Scottish Regiment, presided at the annual dinner of the London Scottish Officers' Dinner Club, held last night at Regimental Headquarters, Westminster.

Dinners

Woolmen's Company
Mr Rex S. Johnson, Master of the Woolmen's Company, presided at the installation dinner held last night at Stationers' Hall. Mr Michael L Gilbert and Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo also spoke. Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Deputy Chairman of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council and the Master of the Farmers' Company were among the guests.

London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates
Mr John Kemp-Welch, chairman of the Stock Exchange, was the guest speaker at the annual business faculty dinner of the London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates held last night at Mecklenburgh Square. Mr Alistair Robinson, trust governor, and Major-General Timothy Toyne Sewell, director of the trust, received the guests.

To Sir Lenox Hewitt
Sir Michael Bishop was the host at a dinner held last night at the Berkeley Hotel, SW1, in honour of Sir Lenox Hewitt, OBE, Acting Deputy High Commissioner for Australia, 1950-53, formerly Secretary to the Prime Minister's Department of Australia, 1968-71 and Chairman of Qantas Airways, 1975-80, and to mark his eightieth birthday. There were present:
The High Commissioner for Australia, the High Commissioner for Singapore and Mrs Pillay, Sir John and Lady Bielloch, Sir Philip and Lady Foreman, Mr William Birtles and Ms Patricia Hewitt, MP, Mr and Mrs Grahame Elliott, the Hon Julian Gibson-Watt, Mr Malcolm Holt, Mr David Lawrence, Mr Claude Taylor, Mr George Tredinnick, Mr and Mrs John Ward, and Mr Timothy Walden.

Supper

Guild of Freemen of the City of London
Sir Anthony Grant, Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, presided at a reception and supper held last night at Skinners' Hall after the annual service held in the Crypt Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral. The Dean of St Paul's, the Commanding Officer of *HMS London* and Mrs Greenlees and Lady Grant were among those present.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.D.L. Beare, FRCS, and Miss N.A. Reed
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robin Beare, of Cowden, Kent, and Nicola, daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Reed, of London W1.

Mr R.H. Burdett and Miss Z.A.E. Grant
The engagement is announced between Robert, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Burdett, of Isleworth, Middlesex, and Zoë, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Grant, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire.

Mr P.C. Claxton and Miss K. Marks
The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Claxton, of Hessle, East Yorkshire, and Katharine, daughter of the late Major Hayward Marks, MC, and Mrs Marks.

Mr J.D. Duckworth and Miss K.F. Fordham
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Brigadier and Mrs Geoffrey Duckworth, of Bickton, Hampshire, and Kitty, only daughter of Mr Nick Fordham, of Dolgoch, Newcastle Emlyn, Cardiganshire, and the late Mrs Tom Lloyd, of Freestone Hall, Cresselly, Pembrokeshire.

Mr D.H. Enoch and Miss N.J. Hartridge
The engagement is announced between Dafydd, only son of Dr David Enoch and the late Joyce Enoch, of London, and Naomi Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hartridge, of Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Mr A.A. Foulger and Miss P.J. Hynds
The engagement is announced between Adrian Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Foulger, of Headley, Surrey, and Penelope Jane, daughter of Professor and Mrs Robert Hynds, of Epping, Essex.

Mr T.J. Ingles and Miss C.M. Berkley-Matthews
The engagement is announced between Timothy James, son of Mr and Mrs James Ingles, of The Priory, Dunstall, Staffordshire, and Charlotte Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Berkley-Matthews, of The Old Manse, Tisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr C.D. Letts and Miss R. Walker
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Martin Letts, of Hethpool, Northumberland, and Rosaleen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Walker, of Parracombe, North Devon.

Mr P.H. Marr-Johnson and Miss A.M. McEuen
The engagement is announced between Prosper, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Simon Marr-Johnson, of North Kensington, London, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs David McEuen, of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Dr D.J. O'Connor and Ms C. Clark
The engagement is announced between Dr Denis O'Connor, of Ivy Cottage, West Thirston, and Ms Catherine Clark, of Ennismore Court, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr A.W.D. Ross and Ms D.M. Whalley
The engagement is announced between Alasdair Ross and Monica Whalley, née Weedon, both of Cookham Dean, Berkshire.

Marriage

Mr J.K. Haines and Miss M. Gertrude
The marriage took place at Notre Dame de l'Assomption, La Digue, Seychelles, on Saturday, April 12, between John Haines and Maryse Gertrude, of La Passe House, La Digue.

Meeting

Council of Christians and Jews
Mr Clive Marks, Joint Vice-Chairman of the Council of Christians and Jews, was a speaker at at a meeting held at St Mary's Abchurch yesterday.

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BIRTHS

AL SUWAIDI - On May 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Mohamed and Gumzi, a daughter, Norah, a sister for Fatima and Ghariba.

BEAZLEY - On Thursday May 1st, to Stella (née Wilson) and Rupert, a son, James Derek, a brother for Sophie and Olivia.

BHARADIA - On May 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Rita (née Banpuria) and Hamant Jadavji, a son, Kiran, a brother for Viraj.

DE CENT - On April 28th 1997, to Janet Bush and Nick de Cent, a lovely daughter, Eleanor Mary Gillian.

DIXEY - On 21st April 1997 at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, to Annabel (Rose) and Ian, a son, Dominic, a brother to Jack and Sebastian.

FARYNIARZ - On May 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Julie and Danny, a son, Robert Stanley (Robbie), a brother for Andrew and Katie.

FOSTER - On 4th April 1997, to Myfanwy (née Vickers) and Simon, a daughter, Perdita Katharine Havell, a sister for Georgina.

HARRIS - On May 5th, to Amanda (née Faris) and Richard, a daughter, Charlotte Emma.

LOCKHART-SMITH - On April 15th, to Astrid (née Aamodt) and Alistair, a son, Cameron William Theodor.

MERISON - On 28th April in New York, to Guy and Caroline, a daughter, Alexandra Rose, a welcome sister for Charlotte and Oliver.

MURDOCH-KHELA - On Saturday 3rd May 1997, to Nicola and Jaspal, a beautiful daughter, Alexandra Jane. Grateful thanks to all staff at King's College Hospital, London.

NICHOLLS - On 7th May at St John's Hospital, Chelmsford, to Amanda (née Reeve) and Clive, a beautiful son, Charles Michael.

BIRTHS

ODEY - Sophia Anne born on Sunday morning, 4th May, to Crispin and Nichola. P.T.L.

REDMAYNE - On April 26th 1997 in London, to Annabel (née Grayburn) and Charlie, a daughter, Georgia Francesca.

RICHARDSON - On April 25th, to Honor (née Shipsey) and Tim, a daughter, Sophie Mary.

ROSS - On March 26th 1997 at the Lindo Wing, a son, Ruari MacAlasdair Robert, to Alasdair and Monica.

ROUSELL - On May 2nd 1997, to Louise (née Bosonnet) and Stuart, a gorgeous daughter, Nina Louise.

STABLES - On 1st May 1997, to Lynda (née Pickering) and Stuart, a son, James Stuart John, a brother for Olivia. Deo Gratias.

DEATHS

BROTHE - Lou. Suddenly at his home in Norfolk aged 72 (late of Hackney and Loughton). Enquiries to Gordon Rooney Funeral Services, Norwich, (01603) 219216.

BROWNE - T.G. (Tom) peacefully on May 6th aged 84. Beloved husband of Sue, loving and much loved father of Jennifer Reynolds, Hilary James and Monica Stewart. Very proud grandfather and great-grandfather. Formerly of Capel and Storrington. Private cremation to be followed by Service of Thanksgiving on Monday May 12th 3 pm at St Mary's, Puddletown. Family flowers only, but donations if wished to West Dorset Macmillan Service or R.N.L.I. c/o Grassby Funeral Service, 16 Princes Street, Dorchester DT1 1TW, tel: (01305) 262338

DEATHS

BUTCHERS - Peacefully at The Royal Edinburgh Hospital, on Monday May 5th 1997 after a long illness, Commander Harold Richard Butchers OBE, RN, dearly loved husband of Mamie and father of David, Rosemary and Ian and loving grandfather of their children. With grateful thanks to all staff at "Canaan Ward". Flowers but no wreaths. Donations to "Canaan Ward" Royal Edinburgh Hospital. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium Pentland Chapel on Friday 9th May at 10.45 am, to which all friends are invited.

CHAPMAN - Lt. Col. John Lionel Chapman C.V.O., O.B.E., late Royal Sussex Regt. peacefully on May 6th in Cheltenham. Much loved husband of the late Nan, father of Margaret, Bill and Lisa and a loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Mass at Sacred Hearts Church, Charlton Kings on Thursday 15th May at 2 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for The Leckhampton Court Sue Ryder Home, c/o W.S. Trenhaile Funeral Directors, 174 Bath Road, Cheltenham, GL53 7NF.

CRACKNELL - Charles MBE ARAM. Peacefully on 1st May aged 81, husband of Patricia, father of Shelagh, Gillian and Rosemary, grandfather of Jessica. Enquiries to Viners F/D: (01732) 842485.

CRAIG - Peacefully at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, on May 5th 1997, William Dick Craig (Willie) aged 86 of Crail. Dearly loved husband of Jane, loving father of Iain and Jill. Funeral Service at Dundee Crematorium on Saturday May 10th at 12 noon. All friends are welcome at this service and afterwards at the Hammer Inn, Crail. No flowers by special request, but donations if you wish to Edinburgh's Sick Childrens Hospital.

DULLEY - Charles David died peacefully at The Whittington Hospital on May 4th. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium 3.30 pm, Tuesday May 13th. Family flowers only.

FRISBY - Elizabeth Mary, on 7th May, peacefully at last after a long illness, borne with courage and great dignity. Beloved and loving Widow of Dick and Mother of Myles. Funeral Service at St Barnabas Church, Swanmore on Wednesday 14th May at 2pm. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to RUKBA, 6 Avonmore Road, London W14 8RL.

FULLENWIDER - Fran on 2nd May 1997. Funeral Service at South London Crematorium, Rowan Road, London SW16 on Tuesday 13th May 1997 at 2 pm. Flowers and enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, 83 Westbourne Grove, London W2, tel: (0171) 229-3810.

GOTELL - On 5th May 1997, Walter Gotell, actor, beloved husband of Celeste Mitchell, adored father of Carol and Rae, loving grandfather and brother. Requiem Mass at Corpus Christi Church, Maiden Lane WC2 on Monday 12th May at 11am. Please, no flowers, but if desired donations in his memory to Gorta, International Famine Relief, 12 Herbert Street, Dublin 2.

GRAHAM - On May 5th Dr. Frank Ogle Graham OBE MD JP of Stokesley, North Yorks. Father of David and Colin, grandfather and great-grandfather. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service at Stokesley Parish Church on Friday May 16th at 2 pm. No flowers. Donations in lieu to RNLI. Enquiries to H.W. Carter, tel: (01642) 700208.

GREENWOOD - Thomas Burton (Tom) R.I.B.A. peacefully after a short illness on 6th May 1997, aged 59 years. Dearly loved husband of Helen, loving father to John, Isabel, Nigel, Anna and Nicholas and much loved grandfather. Funeral Service at St Edward's Church, Keymer, on Friday 9th May at 10 am, to be followed by cremation. No flowers but for donations and enquiries please ring (01273) 832179.

HAIG - Rosemary peacefully on Wednesday May 7th at Brendoncare, Winchester, after a long and courageous fight against increasing pain and disability. Dearly loved and loving wife of John for sixty years, mother of Carolyn, Nigel and Andrew and grandmother of six. Private cremation. Memorial Service to be announced.

HAYTER - On 6th May, peacefully, Pascle Hayter, of Charlton, Banbury, wife of Canon Michael Hayter, formerly of Steeple Aston Rectory. Funeral at Newbottle Church on Monday 12th May at 2 pm. Flowers or donations to Newbottle Church.

ISON - On May 2nd, at The Conquest Hospital, Walter William, aged 88. Widower of the late Leonora. Cremation at Hastings on Wednesday May 14th at 3pm. Further enquiries c/o J Perigoe & Son. (01797) 260316.

JONES - Ralph Francis died suddenly at home on May 3rd aged 67, much loved husband of Susan and father of Nicola, Ivan and Miranda. Funeral Service at St John's Cross Canonby on Monday May 12th at 12 noon. Donations to British Heart Foundation.

KLEINWORT - Betty, on 7th May peacefully in her 91st year, much loved widow of Cyril and mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral private. Family flowers only. Service of Thanksgiving in Longborough Church at 3.30pm on Friday 30th May.

KENNY - On May 2nd 1997, peacefully at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Anne Margaret, aged 89 years, for many years a member and resident of the Penn Club, 21 Bedford Place, London WC1. Requiem Mass at St Wilfrid's Convent, 29 Tite Street, Chelsea, SW3 at 2 pm on Monday May 12th, followed by interment. Enquiries to A France & Son, tel: (0171) 405-4901.

LUCAS - Victor, peacefully on 5th May just before his 81st birthday. Loved and missed by Stella, Susan and Warren, Juliette and Adam, and Richard; and by a warm circle of friends and the many to whose service he devoted his life. Deeply, deeply mourned.

MARSMAN - Beatrice Beryl peacefully at home on 5th May 1997. Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church Easebourne on Monday 12th May at 3 pm following private family funeral service. Donations to Motor Neurone Disease Research would be much appreciated c/o H & L Etherington & Son, 6 Downsview Drive, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9LW (01730) 812569.

MEREDITH - On May 6th peacefully in hospital, Betty widow of John and mother of Michael. Private cremation at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday 16th May at 1.40pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for The Injured Jockeys Fund c/o I.N. Newman & Sons, Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury SP1 1HL.

MOFFATT - The Reverend Canon Percy (formerly of the Royal Army Chaplains Dept. 1949-1965). Canon Emeritus of Coventry Cathedral died at his home in Kenilworth on May 5th aged 81. The funeral will be held at St Nicholas' Church, Kenilworth, on Friday May 9th at 2.15 pm, followed by cremation.

MORRIS - Eva (née Lipson) J.P., widow of O. Morris, on May 2nd after a long illness. Private funeral at noon on Friday May 9th at West London Crematorium. Flowers to Kenyons, 83 Westbourne Grove, W2.

PARKER - Hedley peacefully at home on May 5th aged 76, dearly loved and loving husband of Caroline and devoted father of Zoe and the late Hugo. Funeral at Cambridge Crematorium (East Chapel) on Wednesday May 14th at 11.45 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the RNLI or The Bury St Edmunds Town Trust. Memorial Service at The Unitarian Meeting House, Churchgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, on Sunday May 18th at 3.30 pm.

PARSONS - Keith, beloved husband, father and grandfather, died suddenly but peacefully May 5th. We miss you so much. Private cremation, followed by service at Westbury Park Methodist Church, Bristol, on Monday May 12th at 3.15pm, to which all are welcome. All enquiries c/o Co-operative Funeral Services, 20 High Street, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, tel: (0117) 9507494.

PEPPIATT - Elsa, widow of Edward Peppiatt, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, died on 30th April aged 87. Funeral at Barham Crematorium, near Canterbury, today, Thursday 8th May at 2 pm. All enquiries please to Funeral Directors C.W. Lyons, tel: (01227) 463508.

ROWNTREE - Nicholas on 4th May aged 81 after a brave fight following a stroke. Beloved husband of Anne for nearly 50 years. Much loved and loving father of Sarah, Birdie and Tim and Gar of Lucy, George, Toby, Emma, Benjamin and Ted. Family funeral. No flowers. Donations to The Stroke Association, CHSA House, Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JJ.

STAMMERS - Jean Catherine. In loving memory of my wife Jeannie, having died suddenly on Wednesday 30th April. Funeral, 3 pm Monday 12th May at St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge. No flowers. Details contact Ian Newman F/D tel: (01722) 418136.

TILLETT - C.V. (Ben) on 6th May 1997 peacefully at home. Much loved husband of Mary, father of Michael and Robin, stepfather of Martin, Charlotte and Sarah, grandfather of William, Charlie, Alexandra and Kirsty. Private committal for family only at St John's, Windlesham and Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity, Arrow, near Alcester, on Saturday 17th May at 12 noon. No flowers please. Donations if wished to the Macmillan Unit, Evesham Community Hospital, Evesham WR11 6JT.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

BOSANQUET - Annette. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Annette will be held at Chelsea Old Church, Old Church Street, London SW3, on Thursday 15th May at 2.30 pm.

BIRTHDAYS

RICHARD Morley MBE. Happy 88th Birthday. Love Trish.

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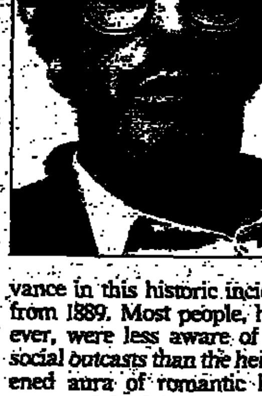
OBITUARIES

BO WIDERBERG

Bo Widerberg, film director, died on May 1 aged 66. He was born on June 8, 1930.



"Life is just like a good movie," Bo Widerberg once said, "and I don't intend to leave until it says 'The End'." Not that Widerberg's artistic career in cinema followed a conventional dramatic pattern. The high-point of his international reputation came 30 years ago, when the ecstatic period romance of *Elvira Madigan* wooed the world with its dappled sunlight, green fields, berries, butterflies and Mozart. (The 21st Piano Concerto's slow movement was heavily promoted on the soundtrack.)

But from the mid-Seventies, Widerberg spent more time away from cinema, working in Swedish theatre and television. His last film *All Things Fair* (released in Britain this year as *Love Lessons*) was his first since 1986.

The huge success of *Elvira Madigan* tended to distort Widerberg's profile as Swedish cinema's leading figure among the new generation of the Sixties. For in previous films and critical writings, Widerberg had set out his stall as a staunch apostle of socially relevant cinema. In his booklet *The Vision of Swedish Film*, published in 1962, he dared to attack the national idol, Ingmar Bergman, for his aloofness and retreat into metaphysics.

Widerberg's first feature, *The Pram*, completed the next year and shot in his native city Malmö, combined precise observations of a pregnant young woman and her boyfriends with the frisky antics of the French New Wave. Its successor, *Raven's End* (1963), nominated for an Academy Award, viewed the drudgery of working-class life in the 1930s through unblinking eyes.

Yet in *Elvira Madigan* (1967) Widerberg appeared to become an escapist. The man who said he was afraid of achieving "smooth contours instead of sparks" let the screen shimmer with colour and soft-focus nostalgia. He was retelling a sad summer idyll, shared by a tightrope dancer (played by Pia Degermark) and a handsome Count (Thommy Berggren), a deserter from the Swedish Army and a father of two. The idyll ends when they decide on suicide.

Widerberg meant audiences to find contemporary relevance in this historic incident from 1889. Most people, however, were less aware of two social outcasts than the heightened aura of romantic love, conveyed in images suggesting Renoir's paintings to some, and to others television commercials for shampoo. Here at least was an art-house film free from the complexities of Bergman or Antonioni.

With *Elvira Madigan* a worldwide hit, Widerberg began to receive offers from America. He was approached to direct *The Great Gatsby*, but declined. Instead, he and his camerman Jörgen Persson went to America to film scenes for *Joe Hill* (1971), a romantic biography of the labour leader, a Swedish immigrant, impersonated by Thommy Berggren, Widerberg's regular leading man. Once again social realism appeared traduced by pretty images.

But Widerberg was not one to find sustenance abroad. Sweden remained his inspiration, particularly Malmö where he was born. His father, Arvid Widerberg, a travelling salesman, later became an established artist. Widerberg himself aimed at a writing career; his first job was night editor for a regional newspaper. *Kyssas*, a collection of stories, and *Hösttermin*, his first novel (published in 1952), both drew heavily on his home town. Three other novels followed. Malmö provided the background, too, for his first venture into cinema, a half-hour short, *The Boy and the Kite*, favourably received when shown on Swedish television in 1962. (Kites were a Widerberg obsession.)

By this time Widerberg was earning a new reputation as a fiery critic of Swedish cinema. He wrote for *Expressen*, Stockholm's leading evening newspaper. But it was his booklet *The Vision of Swedish Film* that had the greatest impact.

A scene from Bo Widerberg's "ecstatic period romance" *Elvira Madigan*

Like the French critics of *Cahiers du Cinéma* magazine, Widerberg poured scorn on the traditional national product, pronouncing Swedish films divorced from reality.

In that respect, *Raven's End* was his true artistic testament. Drawing again on childhood memories, Widerberg placed Thommy Berggren, his alter ego, in a Malmö family much like his own, with a father, a failed underwear salesman, pickled in alcohol and dreaming of better times, and a mother worn down by the domestic grind. Like Widerberg, Berggren's character, a factory worker, saw writing as his avenue of escape; at the end of the film, he was bound for Stockholm. The tone was sober, grey, with flurries of self-conscious technique.

After that international breakthrough, Widerberg's *Love 65*, awash with once-fashionable stylistic tricks, took as its subject a film director's personal problems. Some observers thought it a little too soon for Widerberg to be courting comparisons with Fellini's *8½*. He was on firmer ground with *Adalen 31* (1969), where he further refined the pretty pictures of *Elvira Madigan*, applying them to the story of working-class strife and a paper mill strike in the north of Sweden. The film, very easy on the eye, won a Special Jury Prize at the Cannes festival, and later received an Academy Award nomination.

Having reached an uneasy truce between social concerns and aesthetic delights, Widerberg's output began to decline in importance. In the late 1970s and 1980s he was largely a cinema absentee, directing stage and television productions of everything from *Death of a Salesman* and Strindberg's *The Father* to the American schmaltz of *On Golden Pond*.

Those films he did make — such as *The Man on the Roof* (1975) and *The Man from Majorca* (1984), police thrillers with political undercurrents — offered muted versions of his old virtues or vices: sometimes, with Widerberg, they were hard to separate.

All Things Fair, his last film, demonstrated more of a personal touch. Yet again Widerberg returned to Malmö, weaving his memories into the decorative story of a 15 year-old boy in the Second World War, experiencing first love with his school teacher, more than 20 years older. Widerberg's own son, Johann, took the lead. Local audiences reacted with joy: one TV station adjudged it the best Swedish film of the 1990s. Abroad, the film impressed enough to secure Widerberg his third Academy Award nomination; but in the public memory it can never topple the pretty vistas, the doomed rapture and tinkling Mozart of *Elvira Madigan*.

Widerberg married first, in 1953, Ann-Mari Björklund, by whom he had a son and a daughter. The marriage was dissolved. He married secondly, in 1957, Vanja Nettelbladt, who survives him.

IRIS LEMARE

Iris Lemare, conductor, died on April 23 aged 95. She was born on September 27, 1902.

IRIS LEMARE was a pioneer, both as the first woman professional conductor in Britain and also on behalf of a rising generation of British composers in the 1930s. Michael Tippett, Benjamin Britten, Alan Rawsthorne, Gerald Finzi, Elizabeth Maconchy, Elisabeth Lutyens, Grace Williams, Patrick Hadley and Gordon Jacob were among many who owed the earliest hearings of their music to her energies and talents, in times when musical fashion was not with them.

Iris Margaret Elsie Lemare was born in London, the daughter of an organist. She was educated at Bedales and at the Dalcroze Eurythmics School in Geneva. She then entered the Royal College of Music, where she studied the organ under George Thalben-Ball, the long-time organist of the Temple Church, and won the Dove Prize.

Although allowed by the Principal, Sir Hugh Allen, to join Malcolm Sargent's conducting class, the most important support she received came from Adrian Boult. Contemporaries who learnt their craft working with student orchestras at the college, and among whom she was held in warm regard, included Tippett, Constant Lambert, George Weldon, Howard Ferguson and Imogen Holst.

It was at the college that, encouraged by her colleagues and by the players, she discovered the talent for communication that stood her in good stead as a conductor throughout a long career with music of many different kinds. She also played percussion in the college orchestra, on one occasion nearly bringing an early performace of Lambert's *The Rio Grande* to a premature end when, in the elaborate percussion cadenza, she and two other student conductor players, Gordon Jacob and Guy Warrack, misread their instructions and all three seized the same tambourine.

In 1931, together with Elisabeth Lutyens and Anne Macnaghten, Iris Lemare founded the Macnaghten-Lemare Concerts (from 1934 to 1937 the Lemare Concerts), "to present contemporary music of differing trends in which British music predominates". Starting modestly as "Three Chamber Music Concerts" and based at the Ballet Club Theatre (later the Mercury Theatre), Notting Hill Gate, these centred on new works by young composers which were fitted into programmes of better known contemporary and Baroque music.

Fees and overheads were kept to a minimum, composers with works being performed were required to sell at least ten tickets. The audiences were swelled by friends and relations.

A leading supporter was Vaughan Williams, who had taught some of the young composers and now provided assistance in the form of private financial help, lists of suggested composers and the coercion of critics to attend.

Press reports were appreciative, and before long the concerts were sold out. In 1933, Lemare gave Benjamin Britten his first public performance, the Sinfonietta (Op. 1), following this with the premiere of *A Boy was born*; Britten also took part in the concerts, as a pianist and sometimes playing the viola next to Elisabeth Lutyens on a back desk. Youthful string quartets by Britten and Rawsthorne (both later withdrawn) were also performed in 1933 and 1934, and in 1935 the concerts included the premiere of Tippett's First String Quartet.

Between 1931 and 1935, there were given works by 27 then little known composers, a remarkably high proportion of whom later achieved prominence. The concerts and their tradition were resumed in 1950 under Anne Macnaghten's name.

Iris Lemare's overriding concern was to improve conditions for young composers — including, but not emphasising, women composers. She herself achieved a breakthrough in 1936 and 1937 by becoming the first woman to conduct the BBC Symphony Orchestra. She also conducted the Oxford Chamber Orchestra and the Carlyle Singers, and was an enthusiastic promoter of opera.

In the garden of Pollards, a large house in Essex belonging to the Howard family, she conducted annually between 1935 and 1939 works including Handel's *Xerxes*, with professional singers as well as local amateurs and children. She was later also conductor of Durham County Opera and Opera Nova from 1970 to 1984.

Latterly she was very active as a lecturer, adjudicator and examiner, especially in the North of England where she settled. Energetic, unstoppably persuasive and sometimes forceful, she also possessed great charm and warmth. In her younger days she numbered climbing and skiing among her enthusiasms, which further encompassed ornithology and campanology.

She never married.

FRANK STREETEN

Frank Streeten, CBE, Head of Statute Law Revision, 1978-93, died of a brain tumour on April 4 aged 69. He was born on March 19, 1928.

FRANK STREETEN joined the Law Commission in 1967 and remained there until his retirement some 26 years later. His most important work was on statute law revision — the elimination of obsolete and unnecessary laws from the statute book — and the rationalisation of statute law in general. His achievement is all the more remarkable in light of the fact that he was originally trained in Roman-Dutch law.

Reginald Hawkins Streeten — known as Frank — was born in Bloemfontein. His father, who had gone to South Africa as private secretary to the Governor on leaving St John's College, Oxford, later became a barrister in Cape Province and was a long-serving editor of the South African Law Reports. Streeten obtained a degree in English and Classics from Rhodes University College, Grahamstown, in 1947. He retained his interest in classical civilisation throughout his life.

After leaving Rhodes he obtained an external LLB from the University of South Africa. While studying he worked from 1948 to 1952 as Registrar to Mr Justice G. Steyn of the Cape Provincial division of the Supreme Court of South Africa. He soon formed the opinion that under the Nationalist Government there was no room in South Africa for someone of English descent.

In 1952 he became Crown Counsel and Legal Draftsman in Southern Rhodesia, and in 1953 he was seconded to the office of the Attorney-General in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. In 1961 he was Junior Counsel for the Federal Government at the inquiry into the aircraft accident in which Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, was killed, and following the dissolution of the federation in 1963 he became parliamentary draftsman in Zambia, where he remained until 1966.

In that year Streeten took the difficult decision to leave Africa, where he saw no future for himself or his family. While on a visit to London to make arrangements to emigrate to British Columbia, he was offered a post, at first temporary, in the Law Commission.

The establishment of the Law Commission in 1965 had marked the beginning of a new era in statute law reform. Streeten was to play an outstanding and innovative role.

His first 11 years, 1967-78, there were spent as a member of the Statute Law Revision team and he succeeded as its head in 1978. In the next 15 years he was responsible for four large Statute Law (Repeals) Acts — those of 1981, 1986, 1989 and 1993 — and a large part of the 1995 Act was initially prepared under his direction. But the size of the repeals schedules in those Acts, the dry entries in them and the clear and succinct *Statute Law Revision Reports* which accompanied them, almost all of which he drafted himself, mask the changes which he made and the complexity of much of the research which he and members of his team undertook. He extended the scope and techniques of statute law revision on such a scale as to amount to major innovation.

He widened the range of sources used for research and he encouraged the members of his team to visit libraries and record offices whenever necessary. He took trouble to consult all those likely to be affected by any proposed repeals. He also emphasised the need for awareness of current government programme legislation in case any particular Bill might provide an opportunity for the repeal of redundant enactments.

As a result of his work, the scope of statute law revision was enlarged to include the improvement of the existing law. That was done by using Statute Law (Repeals) acts to slot useful parts of otherwise redundant legislation into other legislation and repealing the remainder. He was appointed CBE in 1991 for his work.

Privately, he kept much to himself. It was only at his funeral that many of his friends learnt anything of his work achievements, and when those who had worked with him found out about his varied pursuits: his love of playing the organ, and his keenness on sports and all kinds of outdoor pursuits — watersports, gymnastics, tennis and walking.

He is survived by his Swedish wife, Bodile, whom he married in 1962, and by two sons.

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ON THIS DAY

May 8, 1878

Sir George Grove (1820-1900), was an engineer by profession but, though he had no musical education, it is for his work in this field that he is remembered. His Dictionary of Music *and Musicians, known simply as "Grove", has long been a standard work.*

GROVE'S DICTIONARY OF MUSIC

The progress made by music in England in recent years, and the vast numbers who either practise it or care for it, fully justify the appearance of the first two numbers of "A Dictionary of Music and Musicians."* Like the other Arts and Sciences, Music will now have a Dictionary of its own, and, to judge by these numbers, her votaries will have enough to do before they master all the learning contained in them.

Among the 'A's comes the late Prince Consort, who, besides being a composer and performer, deserves unqualified praise for the way in which he exerted his influence in leading the public to a purer taste in music. Thus Schubert's great symphony in C, Bach's Matthew *Passion*, Mendelssohn's *Athalie* and *Oedipus*, and Wagner's *Lohengrin* were first performed in this country at the Prince's instance at Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace.

If 'A' is barren of great musical genius, the same cannot be said of 'B'. At the very entrance "Bach" stares us in the face, and not one Bach but a whole family of them, who seem to have been musicians and composers for nearly two hundred years. Of course there is but one Bach, John Sebastian, "to whom", to quote Schumann's words, "music owes almost as great a debt as a religion does to its founder"...

We turn now to "Beethoven". Ludvig van, not von, born at Bonn probably in 1770, the son of a stern father, a musician in the Court band of the Elector of Cologne, who kept him cruelly to his music, fortunately for the world. The child began music at four years old, or before, and at ten years old composed a cantata. At eleven and a half he was deputy to the chapel organist. After leading a life of pinching penury till he was 22, the Elector sent him to Vienna to complete his education, where we find him in 1793 paying Haydn 9d. for an hour's lesson and not quite satisfied with his master.

He had many faults and failings but he was one of the greatest masters of his art the world has seen. In this Dictionary his life has been written with equal tenderness and justice by the editor himself, and to it we must refer our readers for a perfectly exhaustive history of the frail man Beethoven and his divine works. Never was there a more perfect exemplification of the maxim that a man must be judged by his works, for measured by any other standard Beethoven was a most disappointing being.

After Beethoven we now listen to the light airs and grace of "Bellini" whose *Puritani* is for ever associated with the vocal triumphs of Grisi, Rubini, Tamburini and Lablache. Even his *Norma* will not detain our attention after Beethoven. Bellini was very well in his way, but what was he, or what will his future fame be, compared with Bach and Beethoven? We now take leave of this Dictionary, recommending it heartily to our readers as full of instruction and amusement.

* "A Dictionary of Music and Musicians" (A.D. 1450-1878) by eminent writers, English and Foreign. Edited by George Grove, D.C.L. 2 vols. London: Macmillan 1878.

THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY MAY 8 1997

NEWS

Blair bans party foreign funding

■ Foreign funding of political parties is to be banned as part of an anti-sleaze package that will feature in the Queen's Speech next week.

The speech outlining the parliamentary programme, which will be approved by Tony Blair's first Cabinet meeting today, will also pave the way for the outlawing of cigarette advertising and up to 20 other measures ranging from education to devolution .... **Page 1**

From handbags to hairspray

■ So many purple suits! So much hairspray! The mood teetered between a fashionable charity premiere of a star-studded new show and the headmaster's First Day address. "You are all ambassadors!" declared Tony Blair. Four hundred eager faces looked up in rapture .... **Matthew Parris. Page 1**

Lord's bans ashes

A century of MCC tradition was stubbed out at the hallowed home of cricket when campaigners won a ballot battle to have smoking banned in the Long Room at Lord's .... **Page 1**

SBS drug charge

A Royal Marine attached to the *Special Boat Service, the Navy's* equivalent of the SAS, was arrested at the squad's headquarters and charged with taking part in a £10 million cannabis smuggling ring .... **Page 1**

'Threat' to victim

Raymond Sullivan, a businessman, was offered £100,000 to drop assault charges against the boxer Nigel *Benn or become the* target of a contract killer, a jury was told .... **Page 3**

Winning privacy

National Lottery winners deserve a greater right to privacy than members of the Royal Family, most people believe .... **Page 4**

Fishy technology

Anglers have been banned from using high-tech fish finders after *a fishing match competitor* was discovered using a miniature echo sounder .... **Page 5**

Granny state

Grandmothers are so essential to humans that nature makes women stop having children so they can take on the role, the *Royal Society was told* ...... **Page 7**

Price of success

Charles Falconer, QC, the commercial silk appointed Solicitor-General by Tony Blair, will give up an estimated £500,000 a year for a peerage and a £60,000 salary .... **Page 8**

War criminal

The first international war crimes *trial since the end of the Second* World War found Dusan Tadic, a 41-year-old *Bosnian Serb, guilty* on 11 counts of crimes against humanity .... **Page 13**

Mobutu leaves

President Mobutu left Zaire for a regional summit with fellow French-speaking presidents, fuelling expectations that he would *not return to the country he has* ruled for 32 years .... **Page 14**

Cook's new era

Robin Cook, on his inaugural trip abroad as Foreign Secretary, flew to Paris and Bonn to proclaim a new era in Britain's relations with Europe .... **Page 15**

Middle East gloom

The Israeli Government has been presented with one of its gloomi*est reviews in many years on* prospects for Middle East peace .... **Page 16**

Holocaust gold

Germany was able to prolong its war because Switzerland and other neutral nations accepted Nazi gold looted from Holocaust victims, a US study found .. **Page 17**

Stowaway sisters survive sea odyssey

■ Two 18-year-old stowaway twin sisters and a Malaysian *seaman* who were given up for dead after leaping the equivalent of three storeys into the sea from a freighter, are safe in Australia. They swam 20 nautical miles for 40 hours: survived sharks, crocodiles, thirst and hunger, and lived on shellfish for two weeks .... **Pages 1, 3**

JUSTIN WILLIAMS

Martin Bell, the former war correspondent who is now Independent MP for Tatton, outside the Houses of Parliament yesterday

BUSINESS

BP resignation: Sir David Simon *has resigned* as chairman of BP, the oil giant, to become Labour's *Minister for European Trade and* Competitiveness .... **Page 25**

Sainsbury loans: J Sainsbury, the *first supermarket* to launch *its own* bank, is to begin offering mortgages and personal *loans this* summer .... **Page 25**

Economy slips: Manufacturing *output unexpectedly slipped* back during March, presenting the Bank of England with a policy dilemma .... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose *18.2* points to close at 4537.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index slipped from 100.6 to 100.3 after a fall from $1.6368 to $1.6358 and from DM2.8202 to DM2.8126 .... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: Paul Ince, the England midfield player who is now with Internazionale of Milan, is weigh*ing up offers from Liverpool and* Chelsea .... **Page 48**

Cricket: The fast-bowling career of David Lawrence, which seemed to have been ended by injury five *years ago, resumed in a manner* that will raise spirits far beyond Gloucestershire .... **Page 48**

***Rugby union:** Martin Bayfield, the* Northampton lock, has withdrawn from the England tour to Argentina because of the recurrence of a pelvic condition .... **Page 42**

***Motor rallying:** Colin McRae won* the Tour of Corsica after starting the last day in fourth place, *22sec* behind Carlos Sainz, of Spain, the leader .... **Page 45**

ARTS

Proms preview: From the solemn strains of Beethoven, to jokes from Gilbert and Sullivan and a little *jazz with the Dankworths, the* 103rd season of the Proms is revealed .... **Page 33**

Pop duo: At Wembley Arena, Fugees prove once and for all that *hip hop acts can project themselves* in an arena environment. In Dublin, Nanci Griffith delivers a tour de force .... **Page 33**

Dramatic diva: Terrence *McNally's absorbing study of Ma*ria Callas, *Master Class,* comes to the West End in a new production starring Patti LuPone .... **Page 34**

New films: The Czech Oscar-win*ner Kolya arrives in Britain, and Anaconda* serves up a preposterous 40ft snake .... **Page 35**

FEATURES

Ruffled fur: "Humphrey, the Downing Street cat, may be tempted to go absent without leave again. *It is reported that the Prime Minis*ter's wife thinks cats carry too *many infections, and are too often* a source of allergic disease, to be welcomed in the house." ... **Page 18**

The Roy Strong Diaries: "Shy and introspective, I felt alone in this *unhappy, riven household,* creating instead my own secure world of toy theatres and through wielding the paintbrush." .... **Page 19**

TRAVEL

Bargains: A two-week family camping holiday in France, a trip *to explore an Icelandic volcano:* the best travel bargains .... **Page 40**

Main attractions: A day out at one of Britain's numerous tourist attractions is proving irresistible to families who want to soak up history and culture as well as be *entertained.* .... **Page 41**

THE PAPERS

The head of state has found himself with his back up against the wall. One cannot help but notice his embarrassment. Jacques Chirac is caught in a trap created by his *dissolving of parliament.* He finds himself campaigning on the front line. — *Libération*

LOTTERY NUMBERS

12, 19, 28, 31, 34, 43: bonus ball 40.

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Michael Buerk is back with more real-life rescues. *999* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss on *Sharpe*, tosh on a big *budget* .... **Page 47**

OPINION

The Scottish vote

If Mr Blair ignores convention and bulldozes devolution through Parliament, he will be giving notice that the "new" politics are even *more* arrogant and unaccountable than the old .... **Page 21**

Unusual channels

Michael Jackson, a talented man of television, should let his programmes, and the ratings, do the talking .... **Page 21**

Pride of the Prom

No audience is quieter or more *absorbed; no cheer more thrilling* than the roar which rises from the Prommers after some tremendous symphony .... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

What Gordon Brown has done is to reintroduce an independent discretionary system on a local basis. It has the merit of being related to the *movement of prices,* but the defect of being arbitrary .... **Page 20**

JOHN BRYANT

The choice of Tony Banks, the boisterous Chelsea supporter and left-*wing MP for Newham North-West,* as Minister for Sport is one of the more delightful surprises in Tony Blair's new Labour Government .... **Page 46**

PETER RIDDELL

After less than a week, rumblings can already be heard in Whitehall about the activist, and highly political, style of the new Govern*ment* .... **Page 2**

MAGNUS LINKLATER

The order with which the Scottish *changes will be made is the wrong* way round .... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

Bo Widerberg, film director; **Iris Lemare,** conductor; **Frank Streeton,** *head of Statute* Law Revision .... **Page 23**

LETTERS

Trade and popular consent within EU; "new threat" for Venice; further thoughts on election; aid for Zaire; British beef; politics and farmers; army cap badges; *school* inspections .... **Page 21**

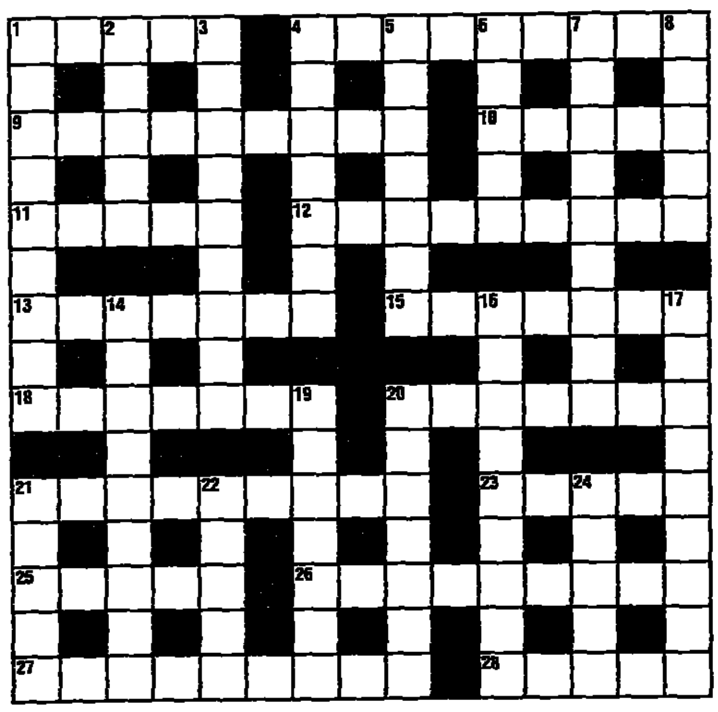
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ POP
Are remixes of Michael Jackson and others an unhealthy music business obsession?

■ EDUCATION
As asthma affects more children, a campaign is telling schools how to help pupil sufferers

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,474



ACROSS

1 There's no time to finish the card-game, pet (5).
4 The cabaret is perplexing? In what way? (5,4).
9 An obvious trace of brogue (9).
10 Produce what's considered, primarily, potential veal? (5).
11 Conscious of a disturbance from the passage (5).
12 Why inconclusive claim is rubbished as fanciful? (9).
13 Posh girl — a brazen one — abandoning husband for a composer (7).
15 Daring entertainer who'd listened to popular single (7).
18 Passed on German article about campus suffering setback (7).
20 Detectable by radiation, as admitted by pupils (7).
21 Excitedly tuning TV to catch English game (5-2-2).
23 Senior chap in uniform, or a sort of suit (5).
25 Article after article in paper that gets people steamed up (5).
26 Maybe newspaper magazine's half lost the thread (9).
27 Bank attacker here, so every soldier must carry one gun (9).
28 Posh ceremony cut short by two unknowns (5).

DOWN

1 Breathe heavily and totter — after its bite? (4-5).
2 Share prices estimated, 50% out (5).
3 See about Times newspapers in no uncertain terms (9).
4 Means to follow just part of a course (7).
5 East German, wealthy, one ignoring threats (7).
6 Ice in a drink is soothing (5).
7 Nasty chill overcomes member in race to the top (4,5).
8 You and I'll audition for a turn (5).
14 Less likely to be lost in translation (9).
16 Old city Romans restored to host one star group (4,5).
17 Some fine Brie, typically being rather high (9).
19 Old rocker set up riot, rampaging in US city (7).
20 Sourness very shortly seen in rising temper (7).
21 Permit concealing tape's origin in Panorama (5).
22 Distinctive quality of speech showing pluck (5).
24 A bit of a dive in which pot is smoked (5).

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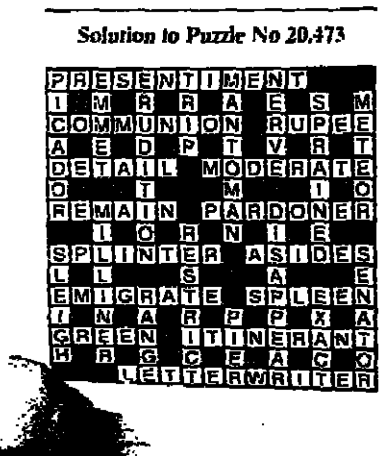

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Hurn Airport, Dorset, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Aultbea, Highland, 0.75in; highest sunshine: Exmouth, Devon, 13.4hrs

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales *should start dry but rather cloudy.* Rain will spread from the north-west to reach all parts, with brighter weather reaching Wales and the west in the afternoon. Temperatures will be a little below normal.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have showers or longer spells of rain, though eastern parts of Scotland should have a dry start. Some of the showers will be heavy, possibly thundery, with further snow on higher ground. Temperatures will be around normal or a little below.

☐ **London, S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N England:** dry at first but cloudy with rain spreading from the west: brighter with showers later. Wind west or southwest, moderate to fresh. Max 11-13C (52-55F)

☐ **S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Isle of Man, N Ireland:** rain at first, becoming brighter with showers. Wind northwesterly, moderate to fresh. Max 10-12C (50-54F).

☐ **Lake District, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N W Scotland:** showers, some heavy and possibly thundery. Wind northwesterly, moderate. Max 9-11C (48-52F).

☐ **N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** dry and bright at first, showers later, some heavy and possibly thundery, with snow on hills. Wind light to moderate, mainly westerly. Max 9-11C (48-52F).

☐ **N E Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** showers, some heavy and possibly thundery. Wind northeasterly, moderate becoming fresh. Max 9-10C (48-50F).

☐ **Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday:** continuing showery; becoming less cold by day, but with overnight frost locally.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm. b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

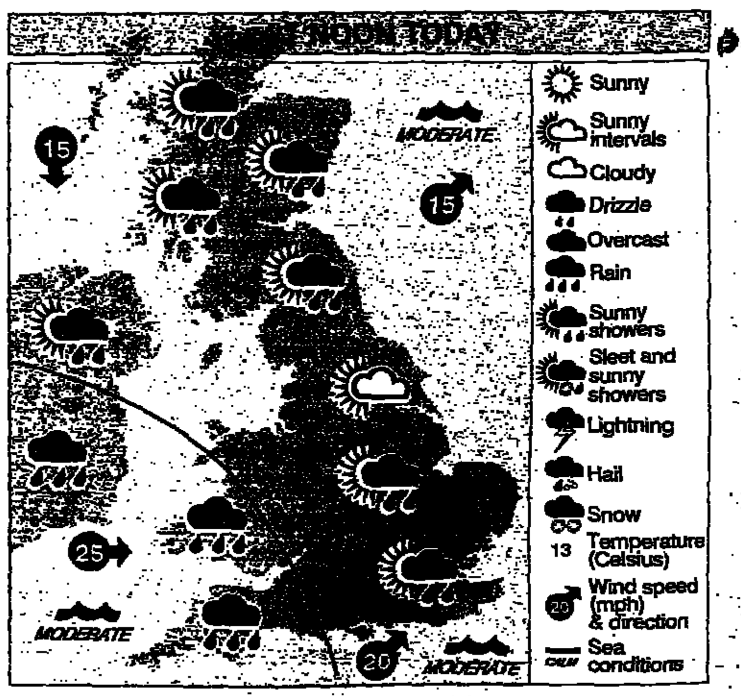
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.4	0.09	8	46	sh	London	11.8	0.02	12	54	s
Anglesey	7.2	0.08	12	54	sh	Lowestoft	10.8	0.03	10	50	sh
Aspatria	6.0	0.07	9	48	h	Manchester	4.1	0.36	9	48	r
Aviemore	x					Margate	10.2	0.07	11	52	sl
Belfast	2.9	0.40	8	46	h	Minehead	8.5	0.01	10	50	s
Birmingham	9.2	0.10	9	48	f	Morecambe	6.7	0.26	9	48	r
Bognor R	12.9	0.03	12	54	f	Newcastle	9.4	0.10	11	52	sh
Bournem'th	x					Newquay	11.5	0.19	10	50	s
Bristol	9.2	0.01	10	50	b	Norwich	12.2	0.01	10	50	sh
Buxton	4.3	0.32	5	41	b	Oxford	8.9	0.15	11	52	f
Cardiff	11.5	0.02	9	48	sh	Penzance	x	0.13	13	55	h
Clacton	11.9	0.17	10	50	s	Poole	10.9	0.02	x	x	s
Cromer	10.7	0.01	10	50	s	Prestatyn	x	0.13	9	48	sl
Dunbar	5.8	0.08	11	52	sh	Ross-o-wye	12.1	0.01	11	52	sh
Edinburgh	5.8	0.02	9	48	sh	Ryde	11.7	0.01	12	54	f
Eskdalemuir	7.4	0.14	8	46	h	Salcombe	6.7	0.02	12	54	b
Exmouth	13.4	0.01	11	52	h	Sandown	10.9	0.02	11	52	h
Falmouth	11.0	0.23	11	52	s	Saunton Snd	10.5	0.04	10	50	s
Fishguard	x					Scarboro'	9.7	x	9	48	s
Folkestone	10.7	0.01	10	50	b	Shanklin	12.9	0.01	10	50	s
Glasgow	4.3	0.03	10	50	sh	Shrewsbury	8.5	0.07	9	48	h
Guernsey	9.3	0.17	13	55	s	Skegness	12.7	-	10	50	s
Hastings	12.8	0.01	11	52	s	Southend	12.3	-	11	52	b
Hayling I.	12.1	0.01	11	52	sh	Southport	6.2	0.08	9	48	sh
Herne Bay	9.7	0.01	12	54	s	Southsea	11.2	0.02	11	52	s
Hove	11.2	-	10	50	b	Stornoway	6.4	0.38	9	48	h
Hunstanton	x	0.01	10	50	b	Swanage	11.3	0.01	11	52	s
Isle of Man	4.3	0.12	9	48	sh	Teignmouth	13.3	0.01	12	54	s
Jersey	10.0	0.01	12	54	b	Tenby	11.8	0.04	11	52	s
Kinloss	3.5	0.06	9	48	sh	Tiree	2.5	0.37	8	46	sh
Leeds	9.1	0.13	9	48	f	Torquay	12.5	0.01	13	55	s
Lerwick	9.0	0.25	9	48	f	Ventnor	13.3	-	10	50	s
Leuchars	4.0	0.02	10	50	sh	West-s-mare	6.5	0.38	11	52	h
Littlehmptn	11.3	0.01	11	52	s	Weymouth	11.5	0.02	12	54	f

ABROAD

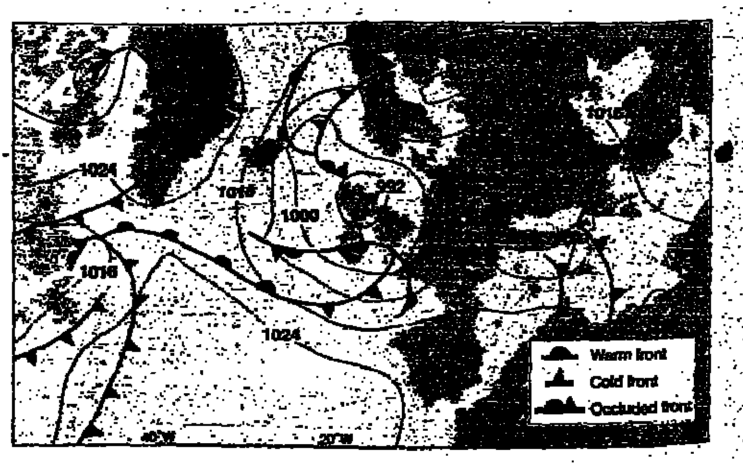
Ajaccio	19	66	c	Corfu	20	68	r	Majorca	22	72	s	Rome	19	66	f
Akrotiri	21	70	s	C'hagn	11	52	f	Malaga	23	73	s	S Frisco	17	63	s
Alex'dria	22	72	s	Dublin	7	45	r	Malta	24	75	s	S Paulo	24	75	f
Algiers	24	75	s	Dubrovnik	19	66	f	Melb'rne	18	64	s	Salzburg	23	73	s
Amst'dm	7	45	r	Faro	17	63	c	Mexico C	22	72	s	Santiago	27	81	s
Athens	20	68	s	Florence	20	68	f	Miami	27	81	s	Seoul	18	64	r
B Aires	29	84	s	Frankfurt	13	55	r	Milan	16	61	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Bahrain	33	91	s	Funchal	20	68	s	Montreal	14	57	s	St'kholm	9	48	f
Bangkok	36	97	s	Geneva	9	48	c	Moscow	14	57	c	Strasb'rg	11	52	f
Barbados	30	86	s	Gibraltar	21	70	s	Munich	24	75	f	Sydney	22	72	c
Barcelona	23	73	f	Helsinki	6	43	c	N Delhi	30	86	s	Tangier	19	66	f
Beirut	19	66	s	Hong K	24	75	f	N York	x			Tel Aviv	24	75	s
Belgrade	25	[illegible]	[illegible]	Innsbruck	19	66	f	Nairobi	22	72	c	Tenerife	24	75	c
Berlin	20	68	f	Istanbul	24	75	s	Naples	22	72	f	Tokyo	26	79	s
Bermuda	20	68	s	Jeddah	30	86	s	Nice	17	63	f	Toronto	9	48	f
Biarritz	12	54	c	Jo'burg	16	61	s	Oslo	7	45	c	Tunis	30	86	s
Borde'x	12	54	f	L Angels	22	72	s	Paris	10	50	r	Valencia	23	73	s
Brussels	6	43	r	L Palmas	23	73	c	Peking	20	68	c	Vanc'ver	10	50	r
Budapest	24	75	f	Le Touquet	7	45	f	Perth	17	63	s	Venice	16	61	f
Cairo	27	81	s	Lisbon	16	61	f	Prague	23	73	s	Vienna	23	73	s
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	14	57	r	Reykjavik	1	34	s	Warsaw	22	72	f
Ch'church	17	63	s	Luxembg	10	50	c	Rhodes	20	68	s	Wash'ton	20	68	f
Chicago	18	64	s	Luxor	30	86	s	Rio de J	24	75	f	Wel'ngton	15	59	x
Cologne	10	50	r	Madrid	14	57	f	Riyadh	28	82	s	Zurich	8	46	r

Temperatures at midday local on Tuesday. x = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low U to become stationary over UK, gradually filling in situ; low B will drift slowly northeast towards Poland, filling as it moves



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	03.30	7.3	15.56	7.3	Leith	04.13	5.7	16.36	5.7
Aberdeen	02.56	4.3	15.15	4.3	Liverpool	00.45	9.6	13.05	9.7
Avonmouth	09.02	13.6	21.18	13.6	Lowestoft	11.17	2.5	23.34	2.5
Belfast	00.35	3.5	12.57	3.5	Margate	01.29	4.8	14.02	4.7
Cardiff	08.48	12.6	21.04	12.6	Milford Haven	08.01	7.1	20.20	7.1
Devonport	07.38	5.5	19.57	5.5	Newquay	06.52	7.1	19.11	7.1
Dover	00.28	6.8	12.54	6.7	Oban	07.33	4.0	19.39	3.9
Dublin (N Wall)	01.08	4.2	13.25	4.3	Penzance	06.21	5.6	18.41	5.6
Falmouth	07.09	5.3	19.28	5.3	Portland	08.39	2.0	20.54	2.1
Greenock	02.00	3.3	14.30	3.4	Portsmouth	00.45	4.7	13.07	4.6
Harwich	01.21	4.1	13.45	4.1	Shoreham	00.39	6.4	13.03	6.3
Holyhead	-	-	12.08	5.7	Southampton	00.15	4.7	12.35	4.8
Hull (Albert D)	08.01	8.6	20.18	6.9	Swansea	08.06	9.8	20.24	9.7
Ilfracombe	07.47	9.5	20.04	9.4	Tees	05.19	5.5	17.38	5.5
King's Lynn	08.10	6.8	20.26	7.0	Walton-on-N	01.12	4.3	13.38	4.2

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.20 am
Sun sets: 8.35 pm
Moon sets: 10.20 pm
Moon rises: 6.47 am

London 8.35 pm to 5.16 am
Bristol 8.45 pm to 5.26 am
Edinburgh 9.06 pm to 5.12 am
Manchester 8.51 pm to 5.19 am
Penzance 8.52 pm to 5.45 am

First quarter May 14

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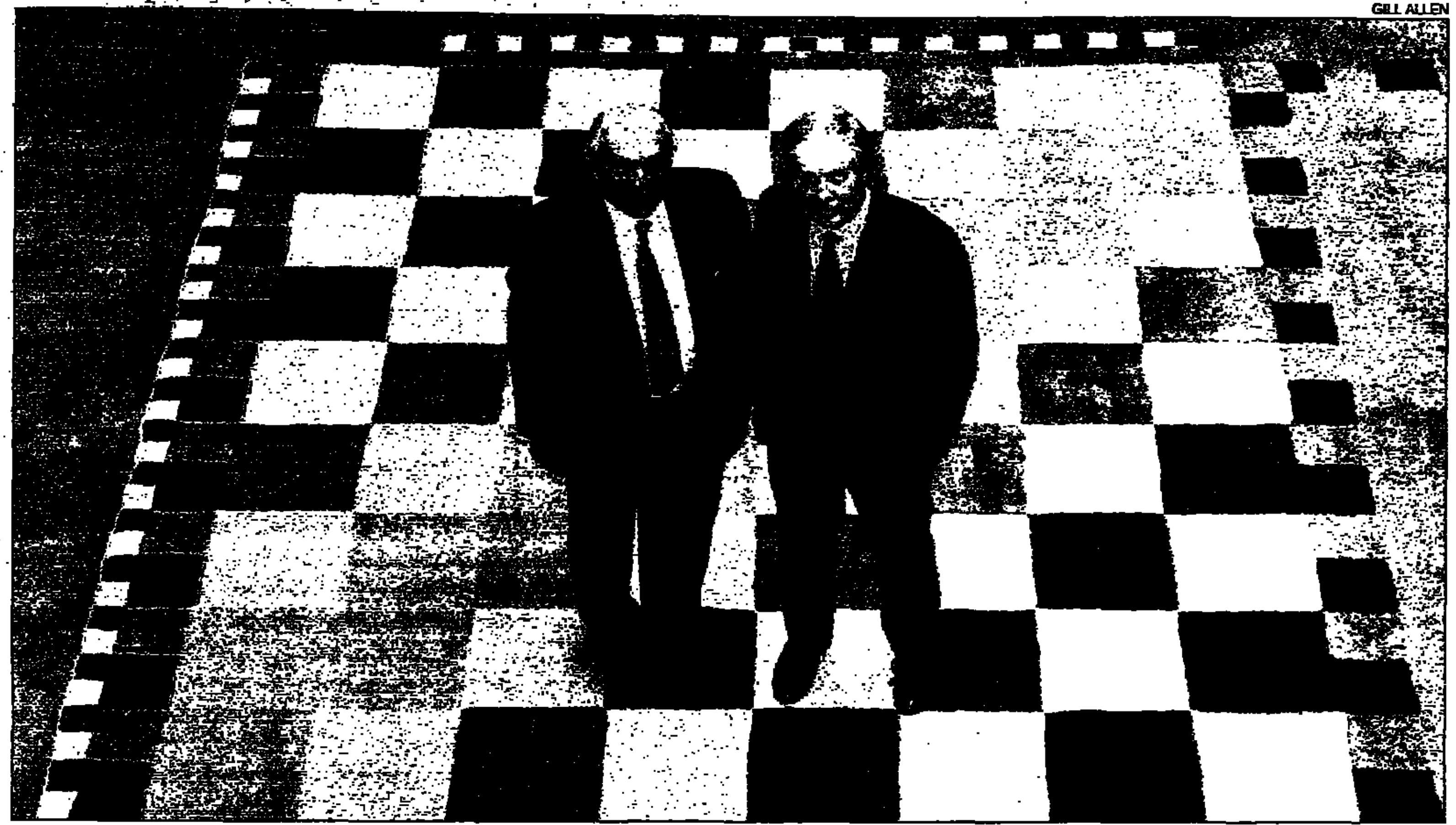
BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
THURSDAY MAY 8 1997



GILL ALLEN

Square deal: Sir Ronald Hampel, left, chairman, with Charles Miller Smith, chief executive, yesterday after announcing "a new ICI for a new century"

ICI planning sell-offs to fund £5bn Unilever deal

By Oliver August

ICI, the chemicals group, has embarked on a three-year £3 billion disposal programme to finance the £5 billion acquisition of Unilever's speciality chemicals business.

Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of ICI, said: "Today's deal creates nothing less than a new ICI for the new century." The acquisition was masterminded by Charles Miller Smith, the chief executive, who spent ten years at Unilever building up the speciality chemicals activities before moving to ICI two years ago. He said the Unilever deal broadened the scope of ICI's global business, shifting its portfolio towards less cyclical light-end chemicals.

Yesterday's acquisition is the biggest corporate change for ICI since the Zeneca demerger five years ago.

The £3 billion disposal programme includes a global offering of its 62.4 per cent stake in ICI Australia, valued at about £1.1 billion based on Tuesday's share price.

The disposals also include a plan to sell the Tioxide pigment business, which is expected to yield about £700 million. Originally Tioxide was to be floated but ICI is now prepared to consider a trade sale after expressions of interest. The group refused to name which other operations it intended to sell.

Unilever's speciality chemicals businesses comprise four international units. The biggest is National Starch, a producer of industrial adhesives and resins. The unit had operating profit of about £213 million on sales of £1.56 billion in 1996. James Kennedy, president of National Starch, will join the ICI board.

The other units are: Quest International, a fragrance, food ingredient and flavour company based in The Netherlands, which had operating profit of £69 million on sales of £696 million last year; Unichema, a Dutch oleochemicals and nickel catalysts company, which had a 1996 operating profit of £43 million on sales of £476 million; and Crosfield, based in Britain, a producer of inorganic chemicals with a 1996 operating profit of £32 million on sales of £205 million.

The £5 billion deal is expected to be completed in the summer, conditional on regulatory consent and shareholder approval. Unilever, advised by Lazard Brothers, announced its intention to sell the division in February.

Mr Miller Smith said that ICI first looked at the Unilever division "almost 12 months ago to the week". The acquisition was "a genuinely unique opportunity to change ICI and create a lot of value". Over an 18-month search for a means to diversify ICI, the Unilever businesses "kept cropping up as the best candidate".

Commenting on the new businesses, Sir Ronald said: "I'd be very disappointed if we don't see a faster sales growth rate than the 6 to 7 per cent per annum seen recently."

ICI is planning further acquisitions but not of a similar size. "The character and nature of future acquisitions will be incremental," Mr Miller Smith said. "Certainly in my time as chief executive I doubt there will be another acquisition of this magnitude."

Pennington, page 27

Sainsbury to start offering mortgages

By Sarah Cunningham

J SAINSBURY, the first supermarket to launch its own bank, is to begin offering mortgages and personal loans to its customers from this summer.

Dino Adriano, chief executive, revealed the plan as he announced that pre-tax profits in the year to March 8 had fallen 15 per cent to £651 million, before exceptional items. Including exceptional charges, pre-tax profits were £609 million, compared with £712 million.

Launching the bank cost Sainsbury £6.3 million. The bank is expected to lose a further £15 million this year. Mr Adriano also said that preparing the company's computers for the millennium would cost £40 million. Half of that will come in the current year.

The unexpectedly high millennium and bank costs led some analysts to lower their profit forecasts for the current year. SBC Warburg, Sainsbury's own stockbroker, shifted down from £728 million to £690 million. UBS, by contrast, moved up from £660 million to £685 million, while BZW sat tight at £675 million.

The company's shares, which took a battering in the first three months of this year after a profit warning, edged up 3p to 349p on news that current trading was above average for the sector. In the first half of last year, like-for-like sales were up 3.2 per cent. This rose to 3.7 per cent in the second half and is currently at 4.2 per cent. The current sector average is between 3 and 3.5 per cent, while the company reckons that inflation is about 1.5 per cent.

David McCarthy, food retail analyst at BZW, pointed out that some of the sales growth came from store extensions, while Sainsbury's had also benefited more than some other supermarkets from recent petrol price inflation. The company said that last year's petrol price war, which has now ended, had taken £23 million off net profits.

Mr Adriano said that Sainsbury's would not go all out to regain its number one spot from Tesco at any cost. "We are certainly not setting market share as our goal in the medium or long term. Being the biggest is not always consistent with being the best," he said. Gross margins were stable and showed no changes of change.

Any threat of an all-out price war appeared to recede as Sainsbury's said it was concentrating on offering lower prices for "key items" rather than across its whole range.

Mr Adriano said that if Sainsbury's Bank, which is a joint venture with Bank of Scotland, found it had to repossess any mortgaged property, each case would be considered at board level. But he said that it should not happen often: "We are very pleased with the Bank of Scotland's approach which is very diligent and careful."

Sainsbury's Bank currently offers credit cards and savings accounts. The bank has opened 150,000 accounts in the first ten weeks of operation.

The results included exceptional costs of £50 million for the conversion of Texas DIY stores to Homebase.

Earnings per share were 22p (26.8p). The company is paying a final dividend of 8.8p (8.7p), payable on July 25, giving a full year dividend of 12.3p (12.1p).

Tempus, page 28

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4537.5	(+18.2)
Yield	3.57%	
FTSE All share	2173.9	(+6.64)
Nikkei	20048.90	(-132.02)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7182.78	(-42.54)*
S&P Composite	825.25	(-2.51)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⁵⁄₁₆%*	(5⁷⁄₁₆%)
Long Bond	96⁷⁄₃₂*	(96²¹⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.93%*	(6.89%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⁷⁄₁₆%	(6⁷⁄₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	113⁹⁄₃₂	(113¹³⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6365*	(1.6332)
London:		
$	1.6365	(1.6366)
DM	2.8138	(2.8199)
FFr	9.4929	(9.5185)
SFr	2.3874	(2.3961)
Yen	204.31	(205.24)
£ Index	100.3	(100.6)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7218*	(1.7245)
FFr	5.8058*	(5.8190)
SFr	1.4627*	(1.4625)
Yen	125.04*	(125.38)
$ Index	105.2	(105.4)

Tokyo close Yen 125.65

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$18.30	($18.15)

GOLD

London close	$340.95	($342.85)

* denotes midday trading price

Sales drive

Toyota, the Japanese car manufacturer, is to invest £260 million on expanding its British engine and car body operations for a sales assault on Europe. The move will create an extra 550 jobs, taking the total of workers in Britain to 3,000.
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Sour note

Tate & Lyle, the sugar and sweeteners group, suffered exceptional charges of £83.2 million in its latest half year of trading. The blow helped to reduce pre-tax profits from £168 million to £30 million.
Page 30, Tempus 28

BIB will usher in digital boom

By Eric Reguly

THE launch of British Interactive Broadcasting will open a market for new digital products worth billions of pounds a year, say electronics makers.

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster that owns 32.5 per cent of BIB, has placed orders for a million digital set-top boxes worth an estimated £500 million. Viewers will need the boxes to receive BIB's interactive services, such as home banking and shopping, and BSkyB's new digital entertainment and sports channels.

BSkyB is 40 per cent owned by The News Corporation, parent company of The Times. BIB's other shareholders are British Telecom, also with 32.5 per cent, Midland Bank, with 20 per cent, and Matsushita, the Japanese electronics company, with 15 per cent.

The set-top boxes are to be made by Matsushita, Amstrad, Pace Micro Technology and a partnership formed by Hyundai of Korea and Grundig, one of Germany's largest consumer electronics groups. Koen Van Driel, chairman of Grundig UK, said the creation of BIB and next year's launch of BSkyB's digital channels will trigger the rapid development of widescreen digital TVs. In the UK alone, this market "could be worth a few billion pounds" a year, he said.

BSkyB reported pre-tax profits of £215 million, up 21 per cent, in the nine months to March 31, on turnover of £913 million, up 24 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

Sutherland to succeed Simon as BP chairman

By Oliver August

PETER SUTHERLAND, the former Director-General of Gatt, will succeed Sir David Simon as the chairman of British Petroleum. The appointment is made on an interim basis after Sir David's resignation yesterday to become competition minister in the new Labour Government.

Another senior appointment from industry is due to be confirmed in the next few days when Lord Hollick, chief executive of United News & Media, becomes special advisor to Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade. The unpaid post will take about a day a week of Lord Hollick's time.

There is speculation that Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, may also appoint a special adviser from industry. Among names mentioned have been Bob Ayling, chief executive of British Airways, and Lord Chandos, a merchant banker who sits as a Labour peer.

Sutherland: interim basis

BP said that the board will consider the appointment of a long-term successor to Sir David in due course. Mr Sutherland has been a deputy chairman of BP since 1995 and is also chairman of Goldman Sachs. The US investment bank said Mr Sutherland will not resign its chairmanship.

Mr Sutherland has been Attorney-General of the Irish Republic and was European Commissioner with responsibility for competition policy in the 1980s. He was a non-executive director of BP between 1990 and 1993, when he resigned to become Director-General of Gatt and later of the World Trade Organisation. He relinquished this post in 1995 and rejoined BP.

Speculation as to who will eventually succeed Mr Sutherland will centre on John Browne, the chief executive. He is said to be the "reformer protege" of Sir David.

Mr Browne won admiration throughout BP when he successfully restructured the exploration business, which is at the heart of BP's operations. About half the workforce lost their jobs in the restructuring.

It is believed that Mr Browne, if not appointed himself, would reject the hiring of a well-known oil expert, in the vein of Sir David, as chairman. After Sir David's departure, Mr Browne is the undisputed power at BP.

Pennington, page 27

Output fall catches market out

By Alasdair Murray

MANUFACTURING output unexpectedly slipped back in March presenting the Bank of England with a dilemma when its reformed monetary policy committee meets for the first time next month.

Manufacturing output declined 0.1 per cent in March, compared with a rise of 0.2 per cent in February. The annual rate of increase also dropped sharply from 1.7 to 1.4 per cent.

Andrew Cates, UK economist at UBS, predicted the Bank would leave rates on hold for the moment because of the propsect of some fiscal tightening in the Government's mini-Budget scheduled for July.

The pound slipped from Tuesday's post-ERM high against the mark of DM2.8202 to DM2.8126. But shares hit a second consecutive record, the FT-SE 100 rose 18.2 to close at 4537.5. Overall industrial output fell 0.1 per cent, with the annual rate declining from 1.3 per cent in February to 0.5 per cent in March.

SFO closes Rom Data file

By Robert Miller

A POLICE investigation into alleged corruption over the way in which more than £100 million of taxpayers' money was poured into companies in the South West that subsequently crashed has been closed with no arrests being made.

The Serious Fraud Office inquiry, Operation Gale, was launched after Rom Data, a failed West Country computer firm, received an £850,000 grant, even though the trade department was aware that one of the directors had a troubled financial background.

John Dawson, a former Conservative city councillor in Bath, had a history of bad debts in Britain and the Caribbean. But the DTI had to admit at a later date that government officials responsible for appraising Rom Data's grant application "were not aware" that Mr Dawson was a discharged bankrupt even though that information was held by the Insolvency Service, a Government agency.

During the inquiry it emerged that Sebastion Coe, the athlete and recently defeated Conservative MP, acting in his capacity as the local constituency member, had intervened on Rom Data's behalf to secure some funding after the firm ran into difficulties.

Gary Streeter, the re-elected Conservative MP for Plymouth Sutton, was also the subject of complaints by local Labour councillors after Foot and Bowden, the law firm of which he was a partner, appeared to have sold a number of the "off-the-shelf" companies that received grants and then failed. This is a legitimate business, and Mr Streeter was cleared of any wrongdoing by the Law Society's independent complaints bureau.

Continued on page 26, col 5

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GEC signs deals with Thomson bidders

By Oliver August

GEC expects to merge parts of its defence business with Thomson-CSF, the French electronics group due to be privatised.

GEC has signed agreements with Alcatel and Lagardère, the two French groups bidding for Thomson-CSF, after its own bid was rejected by the French Government last month.

Combining some GEC-Marconi businesses with parts of Thomson-CSF will create a new dominant force in the European defence sector.

The two memoranda of understanding signed by GEC commit the group to hold discussions only. Possible merger details have not been worked out. But all three groups and the French Government have said they favour the creation of a single vehicle comprising British and French defence electronics interests, giving the combined group the clout to compete against American defence giants such as Lockheed Martin on more equal terms.

Lord Prior, the chairman of GEC, said the memoranda gave GEC "a very important position in any reorganisation of the European defence electronics industry which is so essential to compete in world markets".

Alcatel and Lagardère yesterday filed their final offers for Thomson-CSF. Alcatel said it made a joint bid with Dassault Industries, the French aerospace group, and hoped that Aerospatiale, another French aerospace group, would join if it was the winner. GEC already has joint ventures with both Alcatel and Lagardère.

The French Government is selling its 58 per cent stake in Thomson-CSF after abandoning an attempt last year to sell Thomson SA, the parent company, which also owns Thomson Multimedia, the consumer electronics group. The discussions with the winner are expected to start next month.

Ann Iverson, the American chief executive of Laura Ashley. Her pay has risen while the share value has plummeted

Iverson in £1m pay league

ANN IVERSON, chief executive of Laura Ashley, saw her pay increase by 21 per cent, to more than £1 million last year, while the company's shares nearly halved in value. The pay of Jim Walsh, finance director, rose 80 per cent to £648,000, boosted by a £350,000 annual bonus (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Mrs Iverson earned £1.071 million in the year to January 25, up from £883,000, the 1997 annual report reveals. Her basic salary of £409,000 was supplemented by a £525,000 bonus, £5,000 in benefits, a £50,000 contribution to her personal insurance plan, and a £82,000 housing allowance. She also received £85,000 in pension contributions.

The fall in the company's share price to 105½p, particularly after a profit warning two weeks ago, has wiped out any paper gains on the 5.57 million share options that Mrs Iverson, an American, was granted when she joined two years ago. They are exercisable at 109p.

Toyota investing extra £260m in UK to lift European sales

From Kevin Eason
in Brussels

TOYOTA is to invest a total of £260 million, expanding its British operations for a sales assault on Europe, it was announced yesterday.

The company is spending £60 million to double output of engines, to 200,000 a year, from its plant on Deeside in North Wales. That will supply the assembly plant at Burnaston in Derbyshire, which will start production of a new car, the Corolla, next year. Toyota is spending £200 million expanding the site at Burnaston in preparation for assembling the car. Toyota will create 550 extra jobs at Deeside and Burnaston, taking the number of workers in the UK to 3,000.

Hiroshi Okuda, president of Toyota, yesterday unveiled the new-look Corolla that will spearhead the Japanese manufacturers' effort to raise European sales from 400,000 a year to 600,000 by 2000. Burnaston will be the key to the growth, with Japanese executives planning to stretch the plant's capacity to 220,000 cars a year, split between the Ford Escort-sized Corolla and the bigger Carina E currently in production.

As well as expanding its own manufacturing operations, Mr Okuda said that spending with component supplies would double — from £500 million a year to £1 billion, mostly in Britain, when Burnaston is running at full capacity.

Mr Okuda, speaking on a visit to Toyota's European headquarters in Brussels, underlined Britain's strategic importance to the company's European ambitions. He said: "Europe is a central emphasis in our global strategy. We are aiming for a sales target of 600,000 automobiles in Europe by the turn of the century. We launched the new Corolla this summer and next year our UK plant will begin producing Corollas."

However, the president said that there was no decision yet on whether Burnaston will build a third model, a revolutionary small car to replace the current Starlet model.

Earlier this year Mr Okuda was quoted as giving warning that Britain would lose investment in the new model, worth an estimated £250 million, if it was not a member of European monetary union. But he stepped back from his hard line yesterday, apparently relaxed about the intentions in Europe of the new Labour government.

"The single currency was just one factor in the decision influencing where Toyota sited the third model," he said.

France is lobbying hard for the car while Poland is also in the frame. But Burnaston remains favourite to win the investment. The car is likely to go on sale in 2000.

Car spending surprises industry

By Kevin Eason

CAR buyers embarked on a surprise pre-election spending spree last month, lifting motor industry sales by more than 12 per cent.

Sales jumped to 182,747, up by 20,139 on April 1996, according to figures issued yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Ernie Thompson, the society's chief executive, said that the increase came from private buyers drawn to showrooms by millions of pounds spent by manufacturers on discounts and advertising. The motor industry traditionally enjoys an upturn in the spring, but executives were surprised by the strong return of buyers to showrooms.

The April rise kept car sales on a strong upward trend, ahead 5.5 per cent in the first four months of this year compared with the same period of 1996, to reach 732,281. Models built overseas were 65 per cent of all new registrations in April, up from 61.38 per cent a year ago. Ford's share of the new car market was down to 18 per cent last month, against 19.1 per cent in April last year; Vauxhall was at 14.1 per cent (15.2 per cent) and Rover at 9.9 per cent (10.3 per cent).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Lamfalussy welcomes revamp of Bank

THE European Union's senior banker yesterday gave a warm welcome to the Government's revamp of the Bank of England. "It was music to my ears," said Alexandre Lamfalussy, head of the European Monetary Institute, joining in the chorus of delight in Brussels over Gordon Brown's decision to let the Bank set interest rates on its own. He added: "Maastricht or no Maastricht, it's a good thing. I think this is a very major step towards compliance with the treaty's objectives," he said.

Mr Brown is to face his first European test on Monday when he attends this month's session of ECOFIN, the ministerial council which runs the EU's monetary and economic policy.

Thread-watching, page 29

Willis silent on merger

WILLIS CORROON, the international insurance broker, acknowledged yesterday that a new breed of powerful American brokers were "formidable competitors". But John Reeve, executive chairman, declined to comment on speculation that Willis might join forces with Sedgwick, its UK rival. Its shares fell 4p to 144p after the company said pre-tax profits fell £2.4 million to £45.7 million in the quarter to March 31. The quarterly dividend was held at 1.65p.

Villa goes behind

SHARES in Aston Villa made a lacklustre debut yesterday, closing at a 30p discount to the £11 issue price on the first day of dealings. The closing price values the Premiership club at £122.5 million. Villa will have raised more than £15 million from the flotation, a large part of which will go towards buying new players to strengthen manager Brian Little's squad. Paying for two new giant video screens at Villa Park should account for most of the cash left over.

Amvesco doubles

AMVESCO, the investment company formerly known as Invesco, nearly doubled funds under management to $160 billion in the first quarter of the year, largely because of the completion in February of the merger with AIM Management Group of the US, which managed assets of $64.7 billion. The group saw income in the first three months leap to £84.8 million, a £34.8 million rise. Pre-tax profits nearly doubled to £29.7 million (£15.3 million), while earnings per share rose 1.1p to 5.3p.

PW stakes for fees plan

PRICE WATERHOUSE, the accountant, is to take equity stakes in lieu of fees in ailing companies that it is called upon to turn around. Senior businessmen are being recruited to the venture, which marks a new chapter in the development of the corporate rescue culture. Price Waterhouse will work on a success-related basis. Partners are additionally expected to back a fund that will be available for investment in underperforming companies.

Accountancy, page 30

Downpace sale agreed

THE Electronics Boutique has agreed to sell Downpace, a giftware designing business, to Toy Options for £304,000. The company moved into the black last year, with a pretax profit of £495,000 for the year to January 31, against a loss of £8.51 million last time. Earnings were 0.19p a share (4.83p loss) and there is no dividend. Shares of Toy Options gained 1½p to 110p, while shares of Electronics Boutique eased 1p to 29p.

Caution by Bellway

BELLWAY, the housebuilder, has cautioned against reports of a boom in the housing market, saying its prices increased only 2 per cent in the last year. The company said the recovery outside London was steady. It paid off three-quarters of its borrowings in the six months to January 31, helping a 12 per cent rise in turnover translate into a 49 per cent jump in pretax profits, to £17.9 million. Earnings were 10.9p a share (7.4p). The 2.7p interim (2.55p) is due on July 1.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.04	Malta	0.663	0.608
Austria Sch	20.70	19.15	Netherlds Gld	3.342	3.054
Belgium Fr	61.00	56.36	New Zealand $	2.54	2.31
Canada $	2.376	2.200	Norway Kr	12.21	11.33
Cyprus Cyp£	0.877	0.810	Portugal Esc	294.50	273.50
Denmark Kr	11.24	10.42	S Africa Rd	7.98	7.06
Finland Mkk	9.00	8.30	Spain Pta	248.00	230.50
France Fr	9.91	9.19	Sweden Kr	13.40	12.37
Germany Dm	2.96	2.73	Switzerland Fr	2.52	2.32
Greece Dr	471	434	Turkey Lira	230012	215496
Hong Kong $	13.41	12.28	USA $	1.735	1.601
Iceland	127	107			
Ireland Pt	1.13	1.04			
Israel Shk	5.85	5.20			
Italy Lira	2946	2724			
Japan Yen	218.10	201.60			

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

Get a free child ticket for Rock Circus

The Times, in association with Rock Circus, offers readers the chance to get a free child ticket to the venue where 100 years of rock and pop history is on display. On a revolving stage there is a £500,000 production illustrating the birth of a strand of music which committees across America tried to ban because its "evil rhythms" would infect the youth of the day. The show is enhanced by a sound system with a bank of 24 speakers and £100,000 of computer-controlled lighting. Audio-animatronic moving and static wax figures, lasers, authentic memorabililia, videos and archive film and personal stereo surround you for a unique rock and pop experience. There is also a "wall of hands" including those of Gloria Estefan, Eric Clapton and Boyzone, for fans to place their own hands into.

HOW TO APPLY

Take the voucher, below, plus token one from yesterday's *Times* to Rock Circus, Piccadilly, London. When you purchase one full-paying adult ticket, you will be admitted with one child at no extra charge. (A child is 16 and under.) Tickets are: adult £7.95, child £6.50. This offer is valid until May 31, 1997. For opening times, please call 0171-734 7203.

THE TIMES/ROCK CIRCUS FREE CHILD TICKET VOUCHER

Attach token one from yesterday's *Times* to this voucher and, when you purchase a full-price adult ticket, you will be admitted with one child at no extra charge, to Rock Circus, Piccadilly, London. Present the voucher and tokens at the main entrance ticket booth.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .... First name ....

Surname ....

Address ....

....

Postcode .... Day Tel (inc STD code) ....

OFFER CONDITIONS 1. The offer is valid for one child free when accompanied by one adult paying the full price. 2. The offer applies up to May 31, 1997. 3. Each voucher must be accompanied by two Times/Rock Circus tokens. 4. No photocopies of vouchers or tokens will be accepted. 5. There is no restriction on how many attractions you may visit. 6. You can get more than one free child ticket by purchasing extra newspapers and by buying an accompanying full-price adult ticket. 7. Tokens not for resale and cannot be exchanged for cash. 8. Vouchers may not be used in conjunction with any other discount offer or concession rate.

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully selected by The Times, please tick ☐

It would help us if you answered these four questions:

Which one of the following age groups do you fall into? (Please tick box)

☐ 1) 15-24 ☐ 2) 25-34 ☐ 3) 35-44 ☐ 4) 45-54 ☐ 5) 55-64 ☐ 6) 65+

Which national daily newspapers do you buy regularly (4 copies or more during the week)?

....

Which national daily newspapers do you buy occasionally (3 copies or less each week)?

....

Which national Sunday newspapers do you buy regularly (2-4 copies a month)?

....

THE TIMES
ROCK CIRCUS
TOKEN 2

THE TIMES
AFFIX TOKEN 1 HERE

CHANGING TIMES

No arrests after Rom Data inquiry

Continued from page 25

The SFO said last night: "We conducted a thorough investigation with the Devon and Cornwall fraud squad into the affairs of Rom Data Corporation. However, we have not found sufficient evidence to bring criminal charges against anyone in this case."

Inquiries by *The Times* have established that the SFO, which extended its initial Rom Data investigation to include dozens of other failed companies in the region, concluded that there was no realistic chance of securing a criminal prosecution against any individual. Some of the companies which received state-funded grants were named in a damning 150-page secret DTI report and included Pan Atlantia, Porthcurno Management and South West Farm Processors.

David Jamieson, the Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport, has campaigned for the DTI report to be published and he is expected to continue his battle in the new Parliament. The DTI is believed to have disciplined certain officials who have left the department on early retirement or redundancy terms.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HOUGHTON, Brian Leslie Houghton late of Rowley Regis, West Midlands died there on the 23rd November 1993 (residuary estate approx £33,000) The kin of the above named are requested to apply to Messrs Lindley Johnstone, Solicitors of 3 St Stephens Street, Bristol BS1 1EP.

LEGAL NOTICES

FIRMAN nee MULCHINOCK: Maureen Sheila Firman nee Mulchinock, widow late of Kensington London W8 died there on 5 September 1995 (Estate about £18,000) The kin of the above named are requested to apply to Messrs Mount Petre Kramer, Solicitors, 29 Weymouth Street London W1N 4LQ

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171 680 6878
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

LEGAL NOTICES

FennoScandia Limited
(In Members Voluntary Liquidation)

In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, Ian Peter Phillips of Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF give notice that on 2 April 1997, I was appointed Joint Liquidator, along with my partner, Simon Freakley, by resolutions of members.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 1 July 1997 to send in their full names, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Ian Peter Phillips of 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, the Joint Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.

Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.

Dated: 1 May 1997
Ian Peter Phillips, Joint Liquidator

LINTON PROPERTIES (HARROGATE) LIMITED
(In members' voluntary liquidation)
Company number: 02404749
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF LINTON PROPERTIES (HARROGATE) LIMITED

On 28 April 1997 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Roger Marsh and Albert Edward James of Price Waterhouse, 9 Bond Court, Leeds, LS1 2SN were appointed liquidators by the shareholders.

The liquidators give notice, pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators, at the above address by 25 May 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidators also give notice that they will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

25 April 1997
R Marsh
Joint Liquidator

Bayrose Limited
-In Administrative Receivership-
Registered Number: 3236161

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 20th May 1997 at 3.00 pm for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.

A form of proxy is enclosed which, if to be used at the meeting, must be completed in accordance with the guidance notes provided thereon and lodged at Leonard Curtis & Co not later than 12.00 midday on 19th May 1997.

Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers not later than 12.00 midday on 19th May 1997 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

Dated: 1st May 1997
K. P. Barry, FCA, Joint Administrative Receiver

Harper Taverns Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 20th May 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.

It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators' remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.

A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.

DATED THIS 2nd May 1997
Michael Kenny - Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
FIELD HYGIENE COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 92 Micklegate, York YO1 1JX on 21st May 1997 at 11.00 am, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 92 Micklegate, York YO1 1JX between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on 19th May and 20th May 1997.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account and (unless attending in person) a proxy at the offices of Smith & Williamson, 92 Micklegate, York YO1 1JX no later than 12.00 noon on 20th May 1997. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting. It should be noted that a resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated may be passed at the above meeting.

Dated 1st May 1997
By Order of the Board
J J H KNIGHT, Director

WHITEHALL TEXTILES LIMITED
t/a Linen Lines
The Insolvency Act 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of Whitehall Textiles Limited will be held at The Greville Suite, Swallow Metropole Hotel, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, B40 1PP, on Tuesday the 13th day of May 1997 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 98, 100 and 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, during business hours on the 9th and 12th days of May 1997 at the offices of Begbie Norton & Partners, The Old Grammar School, School Gardens, Castle Gates, Shrewsbury, SY1 2AT.

The meeting may be requested to consider a resolution agreeing the basis of the Liquidator's remuneration. To assist creditors in making an informed decision a copy of the creditors' guide to Liquidators' fees as detailed in the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency, Statement of Insolvency Practice No.9 is available.

Dated this 30th day of April 1997
By Order of the Board
G M Allcock, Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878 OR
FAX: 0171-481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

☐ Appointment could raise doubts over Chinese walls ☐ Concern at business leaders jumping the fence ☐ An idea has its day

Is Davies too close to the family?

☐ GORDON BROWN must still be basking in the double delight of having taken the City by surprise and won its approbation. But as a degree of clarity returns to the thought processes of those stunned by his plans to reform the Bank of England, a few qualms are beginning to niggle.

Mr Brown's declared intention to lift the issue of interest rates right out of the political arena was destined to meet with instant gratitude from the business world. His insistence that there should be no new incarnation of the Ken and Eddie show underscored his professed determination to prevent the personalising of debate over something so serious as interest.

A noble plan but not the easiest to implement. For while Mr Brown, in contrast with his jolly predecessor, may have mastered the art of keeping personality in check, he may find it difficult to people the Bank with a band of similar souls.

The essence of Mr Brown's plan is the new Bank of England committee which is to determine interest rates. On it will sit a new Deputy Governor and four new government-appointees. There may be a collection of apolitical individuals now volunteering for the posts. Yet the intelligence in the Square Mile is loudly proclaiming that the front runner for the vital Deputy Governor's role, which also includes overseeing the Bank's role in monetary policy, is one Gavyn Davies.

The bearded Mr Davies, chief economist at Goldman Sachs, is said to be prepared to give up his whopping City salary in return for a role at the Bank, one which it is predicted could see him succeeding Governor Eddie George before very long.

A willingness to make such a personal sacrifice in the national interest should not be snubbed, but the appointment of Mr Davies could raise doubts over whether Mr Brown had succeeded in his quest for a Chinese wall around interest rate policy. For Mr Davies is no stranger to the close knit core of the Blair administration. There is no secrecy surrounding the fact that his wife, Sue Nye, is Gordon Brown's assistant, but it surely raises a problem of perception, if not fact, in the possible appointment of her husband.

For Downing Street has been taken over by a new first family which extends well beyond Tony, Cherie and the three photogenic children, who know the spin-doctoring Mr Mandelson as "Uncle Peter". However strong his credentials as an economist, Mr Davies will be perceived as being remarkably close to that family. And as Mr Mandelson knows, perception is all.

And he should also note that while it is widely perceived Mr Davies has a good mind and a capacity for thorough research, his high ranking in City surveys owes more to high profile than accurate forecasting.

Labour relations

☐ FUNNY, all these hard-headed businessmen, veterans of a decade or more of firing and downsizing, who are now queueing up to help Tony Blair. One might have thought the man chosen to replace Sir Bob Horton at BP would be in the same ruthless Thatcherite mould, but Sir David Simon is now well placed at the top of any list of Labour-luvvies-from-business. His Europhile credentials seem to have clinched him the job of full-time adviser to the Treasury and Department of Trade and Industry. Businessmen are by nature Euro-inclined — think of those wearying CBI surveys about the importance of joining the common currency, right now — because they tend to disregard airy notions like national sovereignty. But, as a sort of mirror image to the fuss about Tory ministers who engineered this or that privatisation and then joined the board, there is legitimate concern about business leaders jumping over the fence to new Labour.

PENNINGTON

First, we tend to expect well-paid executives to work all the hours God sends, not indulge in esoteric and time-consuming hobbies. BP's board takes this view. There can be no financial benefit to the company in having someone so close to the reins of power. In other parts of the world this is called corruption.

Any executive so seconded should have to stand aside from his real job, as Sir David has. The cost-benefit analysis can then be left to them. Business leaders themselves seem to feel that such political connections add personal lustre — one remembers Lord Sterling, who spent almost a decade radiant in glory at Mrs Thatcher's right hand. The main beneficiaries must surely be the recipients of the advice, in this case a new Government with little experience of running anything. The Conservatives' problem was that they were there too long, and ignored any messages from the outside world. Just think of the trouble that could have been avoided. Any competent businessman would have advised against the poll tax, even if the above Europhilia might not have spared us the exchange-rate mechanism. And all would have given warning against allowing your ministers to take gifts from wealthy men in search of citizenship.

ICI research pays off

☐ WHEN Niall FitzGerald recently revealed his plans for taking Unilever out of speciality chemicals, he omitted to mention that it was all the bright idea of a former Unilever executive, Charles Miller Smith. But that was the tale as told yesterday by Mr CMS, who, after nearly two years as chief executive of ICI, is paying Unilever nearly £5 billion to help with the company's restructuring.

Mr FitzGerald may not be thrilled with the purchaser's ebullient insistence that selling the businesses piecemeal would have brought Unilever "significantly" more, but, apart from that quibble, this does have the look of a deal that works for both sides.

Miller Smith has maintained a remarkably low profile since arriving at Millbank, but it now appears he has been plotting carefully: he first approached Unilever a year ago. He knows what he has bought and insists that it is real quality.

The benefits to ICI may go beyond the non-dilutive earnings. While his predecessors at ICI had made inroads into shaking up the bureaucratic culture, Miller Smith has made clear his views that the process was by no means complete. With the Unilever management coming on board, he believes he will now have an international gene pool of talent to fish in to equip ICI for the next century.

FitzGerald is not bemoaning the fact that he swallowed the bait.

Take-home trade

☐ BUYING a house in Britain is an unnecessarily cumbersome process, but the idea of picking up a mortgage at the supermarket is unlikely to make it any simpler. Neither is it likely to persuade happy householders to be loyal grocery buyers. Instead, it raises the nasty spectre of the grocer having to repossess a customer's home. Marks & Spencer avoided mortgage lending for that very reason.

Whitbread courts older customers as profits top £300m

By Fraser Nelson

WHITBREAD, the brewing and leisure group, is to invest £500 million in its broad portfolio of businesses this year, targeting older customers.

The company plans to open 250 outlets, in part to increase its share of the market for over-50s, which it expects to outperform the market for young people.

David Thomas, chief executive designate, said that the company — which spent £180 million on acquisitions last year — is now happy with its portfolio of businesses.

He said: "We must ask ourselves who is going to fill our pubs in the future. People are getting older, and are taking more control over their lifestyles. They have more money now, and they want to spend it. Older people did not use to see pubs as somewhere pleasant that they could spend money, but, by providing the sort of food that they enjoy, we are making inroads into the market."

Thomas: opening outlets

Mr Thomas said that the popularity of Whitbread's Beefeater chain among older people was shown by subscription levels for its Emerald Card — a loyalty scheme for over-55s — now held by nore than a million people.

Last year's acquisitions helped pre-tax profits to grow to an expected £303 million for the year to March 1, against £286 million for the previous 53 weeks. Earnings per share rose to 50.8p (46.1p). A 17.55p final dividend, due on July 18, makes a total of 23.8p.

The company plans to open 44 new outlets of Café Rouge, which came with acquisition of the Pelican group last summer, and 80 themed pubs, 40 Travel Inns, 35 Costa Coffees and five new centres for David Lloyd Leisure. More than 5,000 jobs should be created.

Whitbread plans to sell Keg North America, Richardson Inns and three branded three-star hotels and some of its less profitable off-licences.

Mr Thomas said that the company was not concerned about the prospect of a minimum wage. Although he would not cost the various levels, analysts forecast that the impact of a £3.50-an-hour minimum would be negligible. A £4.25 minimum, however, is expected to cost the group an extra £32 million a year.

Whitbread said that the millennium computer bug — in which tills and computers fail to recognise dates in 2000 — was not proving a problem and should have no effect on its balance sheet.

The shares rose 11½p, to 801½p.

Change at the inn, page 29

Dalgety cuts payout and issues warning

SHARES in Dalgety, the petfood and agribusiness company, fell 13.5 per cent yesterday as it gave warning of falling profits and gave notice of a cut in dividend (Sarah Cunningham writes).

The company also said that Nigel Garrow has resigned as head of the petfoods division. He is to be replaced by Hugh Donaldson, a former colleague of Sir Denys Henderson, chairman of Dalgety, from ICI.

Second-half profits are set to fall below those of the first half, when Dalgety made £43 million before tax, down 8 per cent on the previous year.

The company said that it had a disappointing third quarter because of production difficulties at its Southall petfoods plant, the impact of BSE and the strength of sterling. BSE will cost a further £9 million this year, after having cost the company £15 million last year. Cutting costs in the petfoods division will cost about £27 million.

Richard Clothier, chief executive, said that plans for rationalistion of the petfoods division are likely to mean a 10 per cent cut in the 3,700 workforce over the next two years.

To restore cover, the final dividend is expected to be cut to 6p, from 13.5p a year ago. This would give a total dividend of 14.5p, down from last year's 22p. The shares fell 41½p, to 269p.

Sir Denys said: "The continued underperformance of our petfoods business has led us to conclude that tough action is required to ensure that we are on track to meet our financial objectives, albeit late."

Royal Bank eyes shoppers in Tesco credit card link

By Robert Miller
Banking Correspondent

ROYAL Bank of Scotland yesterday said there will be a July launch of a joint credit card venture with Tesco, and predicted that RBS group profits will exceed £1 billion "in a few years".

George Mathewson, group chief executive of RBS, which yesterday unveiled a 23 per cent rise in interim profits to £369 million, said that the real bonus of the supermarket link with Tesco was that it gave the bank access to 10 million shoppers who might buy financial services. He said: "The upside is very substantial and the downside very small."

RBS, which lifted its interim dividend to 6.2p, from 5.4p, has cut its cost-to-income ratio within the UK banking division to 57.5 per cent in the six months to March 31, from 61.5 per cent.

Direct Line, the telephone insurance subsidiary, contributed £8 million, up from £5 million previously. The financial services division now has a mortgage book of £870 million and a savings base of £370 million.

Dr Mathewson restated his belief that building societies are currently overvalued by the City and predicted that more joint ventures, such as those with Banco Santander in Spain, were likely. He said: "The cost of acquisitions does seem high at present. There are better returns from investing in existing businesses."

Tempus, page 28
City Diary, page 29

BASE RATE

With effect from

6 May 1997

The Royal Bank of Scotland

Base Rate has

been increased

from 6.00% to

6.25% per annum.

The Royal Bank of Scotland

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB.

Registered in Scotland No. 90312.

Vert shares hit low on warning

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES of Jacques Vert, the troubled women's wear retailer, plunged to a low yesterday as the company said that its autumn and winter fashion range had flopped.

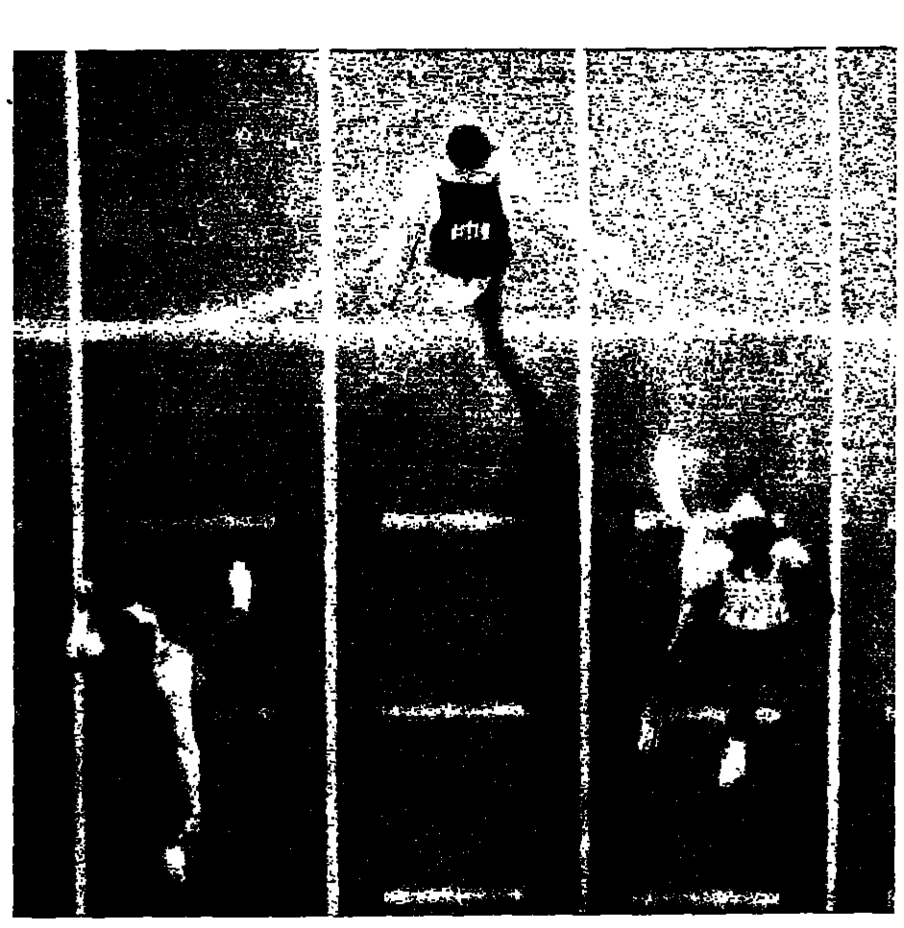
Although like-for-like retail sales gained 18 per cent in the last six months, it has lost £1 million in wholesale orders from House of Fraser and Selfridges. This, it gave warning, will force its losses to exceed the £5 million loss expected by the market. Analysts now expect the company to report £7 million losses.

Although the Grace Collection, the range aimed at a younger market, met expectations, the core Jacques Vert label was shunned by wholesalers who been unable to sell the summer range.

It will pull the remaining 32 of its concessions in the House of Fraser by November this year.

The shares, which have fallen from 180p since last year, dropped 13p to 26½p.

Most companies already have what it takes to put them out in front.



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STOCK MARKET **MICHAEL CLARK**

Shares challenge 4,600 but run out of steam

EQUITIES extended this week's record-breaking run, although an early assault on 4,600 quickly ran out of steam.

Having climbed 106 points in just two days to reach an intra-trading high of 4,456.2, share prices closed below their best. *The celebrations that* marked the Chancellor's decision to hand over monetary policy to the Bank of England appear to be drawing to a close. *With Wall Street nursing* an early fall last night in the face of strong first-quarter US labour figures, prices in London are expected to open *lower this morning.*

In the event, the FT-SE 100 index saw its early lead more than halved to close 18.2 up at 4,537.5. The total number of *shares traded rose 100 million* on the previous day's level to 802.7 million.

There was a positive response from brokers to the *news that ICI is paying almost* £5 billion for the speciality chemicals business owned by *Unilever, 2½p easier at £16.45.* James Ingles, at HSBC James Capel, the broker, said it was a good deal and has moved ICI from a "sell" to a "hold" for the *first time in four years.* Kleinwort Benson took the view that ICI had paid a high *price for the business.* **ICI** finished 43p better at 757½p.

What is *Unilever likely to do* with the proceeds? Market talk suggests a bid for **Reckitt & Colman**, *up 11½p at 884p,* might be on the cards.

There was selective support for the banks with some brokers taking the view they had been left behind in recent weeks. **NatWest Bank** led the way higher with a rise of 12½p *at 763½p and there was also* support for **Lloyds TSB**, up 12p to *578p*, **Alliance & Leicester**, up 6½p to 585½p, and **Barclays Bank**, up 7½p to £11.99.

Royal Bank of Scotland eased ½p to 585p on the back of half-year figures that saw an increased contribution from Direct Line, its troubled insurance arm. Suggestions that the RBS might be the *target of a bid from* **HSBC**, 4p better at £17.05½, or the soon-to-be floated Halifax Building Society were dismissed.

Schroders rose 41½p to £16.50 amid renewed *speculation* that it may receive an offer for its fund management *arm. Schroders, one of the few* remaining independent merchant banks, has seen its price drift from a peak of £17.57.

Chairman Doug Ellis and players cheer Aston Villa's debut

Confirmation that **BSkyB**, 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, plans to set up up a *digital interactive TV network* boasting more than 200 channels lifted the price 5½p to 601p. *The new company being* formed, British Interactive *Broadcasting, will be owned* jointly along with **BT**, 1p easier at 459p, Midland Bank *and Matsushita of Japan.*

The profits setback for **J Sainsbury** was much as brokers had anticipated following January's profits warning. An *upbeat statement from* Dino Adriano, the man brought in to revive the group's fortunes, was enough to lift the shares 3p to 349p. Brokers are now *hoping the worst is over.*

Profits at the top end of expectations lifted **Whitbread** *6½p to 796½p.* The group has confirmed plans to dispose of certain assets to achieve a better *return on* capital.

Dalgety tumbled 41½p to 269p after moving to cut the dividend by a third in order to restore the cover. Profits in the second six months would also fall short of those achieved in the first half. The move will *reduce the payout for the year* from 22p to 14.5p.

The worse than expected profits setback left **Tate & Lyle** 5½p lower at 448p. It was a game of two halves for shares of **Aston Villa** on its market debut. They achieved a useful premium early on but eventually closed at a discount. Placed at £11 with mostly institutional investors, the priced touched a peak for the day of £12 before settling at £10.70 a fall of 30p. ***Manchester United*** had every reason to cheer after winning the Premiership for the fourth time in five years but failed to take advantage of it. The shares ended the session 22p down at 639p.

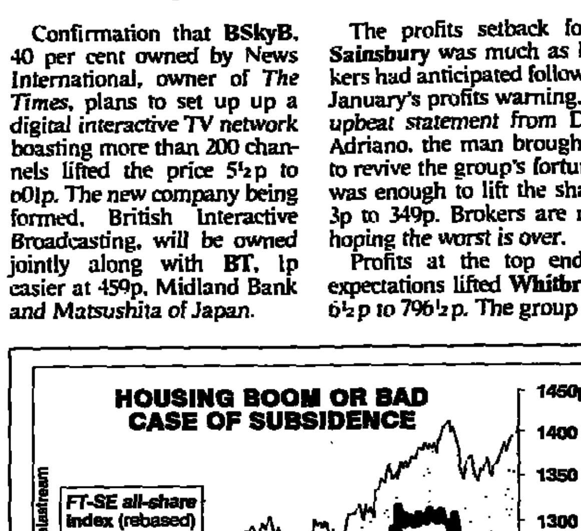
Garton Group has splashed *out £6.3 million acquiring* a near 25 per cent stake in **British Dredging** 18p better at 152½p. Another profits warning from **Jacques Vert** left the shares 13p off at 26½p.

The property sector received a much-needed fillip in the *shape of a bullish report from* BZW. It concludes that the cheapest stocks include **MEPC**, up 12p at 474½p, **Great Portland Estates**, 10½p better at *216½p*, **Greycoat**, 2p firmer at 156p, and **Capital & Regional**, steady at 231½p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** It was a day of consolidation after Tuesday's spectacular gains. Continuing selective support ensured that the losses were *kept to a minimum* with shorter-dated issues worst hit as losses extended to £¼. In the futures put, the June series of the long gilt finished just £⅛ down at £113⁹⁄₃₂ with the total number of contracts completed less than half the previous *day's total* at 103,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 eased five ticks to £108½, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was also *five ticks lower at* £103⁵⁄₁₆.

NEW YORK: Blue chips and bonds were sold off in late *morning trading,* triggering the New York stock exchange's automatic curbs on index-arbitrage trading. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was *down* 42.54 points at 7,182.78.



A BULLISH statement on *trading lifted Bellway 4p to* 344p and also brought fresh hope that the housing revival is at last under way. The company said that in *spite of the political uncertainty in recent months,* buyers were still flooding *into the market.* The bullishness spilled over into the rest of the sector where there were gains for Barratt Developments, up 4p at *256½p, Wainhomes 5p to* 147½p and Taylor Woodrow 4½p to 205p.

But brokers remain cautious about prospects. Kevin Cammack, at Merrill Lynch, says: "Market *firmness has begun to spread* out from the South East, but it remains more difficult in other parts of the country such as Scotland. *The north of the country* also remains quiet. The current euphoria spreads from Bristol across to East Anglia but has not been followed up by price levels".

Another broker *commented*: "The sector has underperformed since February. The market's exposure to house price inflation has an exaggerated *look to it.*"

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	7182.78 (-42.54)
S&P Composite	835.25 (-2.51)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	20048.90 (-132.02)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	13605.91 (+26.57)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	775.99 (-5.77)
Sydney:	
AO	2517.6 (+4.8)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	3551.98 (-16.30)
Singapore:	
Straits	2068.13 (+12.45)
Brussels:	
General	12527.00 (-88.79)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2643.31 (-8.62)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1025.40 (+2.70)
London:	
FT 30	2947.9 (+15.0)
FTSE 100	4537.5 (+18.2)
FTSE 250	4519.0 (-1.2)
FTSE 350	2210.3 (+7.0)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2288.19 (-1.13)
FTSE All-Share	2173.9 (+6.64)
FTSE Non Financials	2300.46 (+3.28)
FTSE Fixed Interest	119.19 (+0.36)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.64 (-0.16)
Bargains	54301
SEAQ Volume	803.0m
US$	1.6358 (-0.0010)
German Mark	2.8126 (-0.0076)
Exchange Index	100.3 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4424
£:SDR	n/a
RPI	155.4 Mar (2.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.9 Mar (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Alliance & Leicester	585½	+ 6½
Aston Villa	1070	...
Aurora Inv Trust	100	...
Cable & Wireless	288	- 2
Charlton Athletic	57½	...
Close Bros Prot VCT	95	...
Comino	149½	...
Donatantonio	81½	+ 1½
Dragons Hlth Clubs	125½	...
Heal's	212½	...
ITG Group	162½	- 3
Lady in Leisure	130½	...
Longbridge Intl	115½	...
Mrtn Currie I&G Cap	91½	...
Mrtn Currie I&G Inc	98	...
NMT (50)	48½	- 1
Newcastle Utd	119	- 4½
Northstar Secs	29	...
Oxford Tech Venture	95	...
Partners Hldgs	171½	...
Pennine AIM (100)	100	...
Petra Diamonds	64½	+ 11
Petra Diamonds Wts	39½	+ 9½
Qualceram (143)	155½	...
Salehurst	122½	- 1½
Soccer Investments	103½	...
Torch Hldgs	107½	...
United Overseas Grp	70	+ 1½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ask Central n/p (160)	35	...
Barlows n/p (525)	2	...
Break for the Brdr (51)	1½	...
Pembertons n/p (18)	2	- ½
Rackwood n/p (50)	½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Insh Cont	640p (+50p)
ICI	757½p (+43p)
REXAM	306p (+14p)
Legal & Gen	454½p (+16p)
Booker	320½p (+11p)
Chiroscience	337½p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Jacques Vert	26½p (-13p)
Dalgety	269p (-41½p)
Shield Diag	392½p (-45p)
Chemring	106½p (-11p)
Osborne & Little	760p (-30p)
Man Utd	639p (-22p)

Closing Prices Page 32

TEMPUS

Banking on innovation

J SAINSBURY'S top management has had a haunted look for so long that to see board members looking confident, almost cheerful, yesterday was quite a shock.

It was a huge contrast with the last public outing of David Sainsbury *et al* at the time of the devastating profits warning in January. But cynical investors should now be asking whether the more confident performance was a bluff or whether, as Dino Adriano, chief executive, *kept on saying yesterday,* "the tide has turned".

The pre-tax profit was in line with the warning, *and the 15 per cent fall* was nothing to be proud of. The good news — and there is no disputing that it is better than expected — *came in the current* same-store sales growth, which at 4.2 per cent is well above the market average.

The banking side of Sainsbury's is still small beer, and *it will lose money* again this year. Mortgages and personal loans will be more risky to offer than savings accounts, because of the danger *that* Sainsbury's will have to repossess some properties and thereby lose goodwill. On the other hand, other supermarket banks, such as Tesco's, are heading down the same road and there is some virtue in being the first to come out with *innovative products.*

With profits forecast at between £685 million and £704 million, Sainsbury's is on an almost identical rating to Tesco. Although yesterday's figures were comforting, they gave no cause for the shares to be rated above its rival's. Nor, on the other hand, did they give a reason for those who have stayed in through thick and *thin to sell now. Hold.*

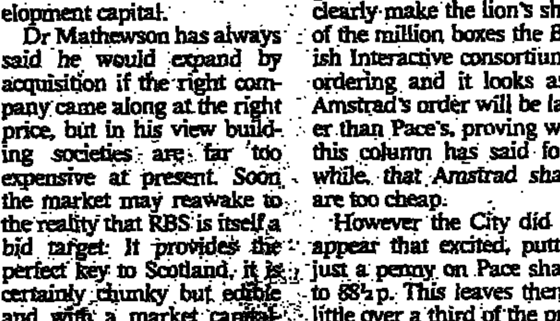
Tate & Lyle

AFTER seven years of relatively good fortune, Tate & Lyle has got its fingers *burned in emerging markets.* In interim results announced yesterday, the sugar and sweeteners group, whose shares have drifted from about 480p in May 1996 to 448½p yesterday, made provision for a £35 million *paper loss on activities in* Eastern Europe and China. These exceptional costs hauled down already-disappointing figures.

Emerging markets are vital to sugar companies. As health-conscious Westerners *increasingly steer* clear of their products. Coca-Colonialism recruits new punters. The write-downs and write-offs in Bulgaria, *Ukraine and China* serve as a reminder of the risks in this expansion, vulnerable as it is to all sorts of political interference.

Short-term, Tate & Lyle will continue to be clobbered by the strong pound. The *cyclical trough in the* US fructose business that hit first half profits may not yet have been reached either, despite mildly hopeful *noises from Larry Pillard,* the new chief executive.

The downward revaluation of Tate's animal feed *business might be seen as an* indication of a forthcoming sale, and there are benefits in the *next* few years from restructuring in North America and massive capital investment in Europe, but it is hard to see the shares do *much except mark time for* the moment.



Royal Bank of Scotland

GEORGE MATHEWSON has a reputation for grumpiness. The chief executive of Royal Bank of Scotland remained true to form yesterday when he unveiled a record set of interim results *with barely a smile.* Maybe that's why the market failed to respond.

The RBS portfolio is not the easiest to run the slide rule over. *True, the retail side of* banking has stood RBS in good stead with deals such as the Tesco link-up and Citizens, the savings and loans business in the United States. And the £8 million in profits that was Direct Line's *contribution may have been lower* than used to be the case, but few of its many imitators could boast such rigid risk controls. But the other gems of the banking group can be found in the new business category such as specialised *lending, acquisition* and structured finance *and* development capital.

Dr Mathewson has always said he would expand by acquisition if the right company came along at the right price, but in his view building societies are far too expensive at present. *Soon,* the market may reawake to the reality that RBS is itself a *bid target. It provides the* perfect key to Scotland, it is certainly chunky but edible and with a market capitalisation of just under £5 *billion could attract the likes* of HSBC or even the Halifax. Of course, by the time you catch Dr Mathewson smiling it will be too late. The deal will have been done.

Pace

THERE is a sense of relief in Shipley, home of Pace Micro Technology. The troubled decoder manufacturer has at last received an order from BSkyB for digital set-top boxes, even if the order does not *look overly exciting at first glance. Matsushita will* clearly make the lion's share of the million boxes the British Interactive consortium is ordering and it looks as if Amstrad's order will be larger than Pace's, proving what this column has said for a while, *that Amstrad shares* are too cheap.

However the City did not appear that excited, putting just a penny on Pace shares to 88½p. This leaves them a little over a third of the price they reached after an over-*hyped flotation. But the City* has got Pace wrong. What this BSkyB deal should mean is that Pace has no further capacity to disappoint. Further orders from abroad may be as tardy as the BSkyB deal, but having the UK order *under its belt could be a turning* point. Even assuming nothing more is on the way, Pace will make £19 million this year, putting its shares on an unremarkable 16 times earnings. Pace shares look as if they've found their floor. *The only way is up.*

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	982-976	Jul	1051-1048
Jul	1004-1003	Sep	1062-1061
Sep	1020-1018	Dec	1072-1071
Dec	1013-1012	Mar	1086-1082
Mar	1026-1025		
May	1037-1036		Volume: 6515

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1713-1690	Jan	unq
Jul	1753 SLR	Mar	-
Sep	1770-1765	May	-
Nov	1765-1760		Volume: 8191

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	303.5-01.5
Spot: 316.5		May	303.9-01.5
Aug	312.0-11.3	Aug	305.9-03.5
Oct	303.7-02.8	Oct	304.9-00.4
Dec	302.5-01.3		Volume: 1672

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 6

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	112.50	141.89	99.42
(+/-)	+1.07	+3.37	-0.49
Eng/Wales	112.42	139.56	98.88
(+/-)	-0.89	+6.10	-1.57
(%)	+22.0	-6.0	+1.0
Scotland	113.53	122.85	97.49
(+/-)	+17.06	+9.28	-1.03
(%)	-21.0	-32.0	-5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.90	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.20	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Jul)	18.30	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.90	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	19.85	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	200 (n/c)	202 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	170 (n/c)	171 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	78 (n/c)	80 (n/c)
Naphtha	175 (n/c)	178 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	167.25-67.50	Aug	169.00-69.25
Jun	166.25-66.50	Sep	171.25-71.50
Jul	167.50-67.75		Vol: 21099

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.18-18.20	Sep	19.49-19.52
Jul	18.28-18.30	Oct	19.55-18.60
Aug	18.39-18.43		Vol: 21226

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	91.00	May	99.50
Jul	92.10	Sep	99.75
Sep	93.25	Nov	91.75
Nov	95.25	Jan	93.75
Jan	97.25	Mar	95.75
Volume: 673		Volume: 36	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Jun	unq	30.0
Nov		60.0
Mar		105.0
		Volume: 105

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)

Jan 70.00-70.50

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 97	1350	1325	1315
Jun 97	1315	1290	1290
Jul 97	1230	1200	1200
Oct 97	1345	1330	1330

Vol: 161 lots Open interest: 2418
Index 1269 +5

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2425.0-2426.0	2360.0-2360.5	74053
Lead ($/tonne)	614.00-615.00	625.50-626.00	13000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1261.0-1262.0	1282.0-1283.0	45025
Tin ($/tonne)	5755.0-5765.0	5795.0-5795.0	22535
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1606.5-1607.0	1634.0-1634.5	176040
Nickel ($/tonne)	7390.0-7395.0	7505.0-7510.0	143388

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Dom...	420	34	34½	40½	10½	18½	28
(*437)	460	7½	15	22½	30	41½	51½
ASDA	110	10½	12¼	14½	2	4½	5½
(*117½)	120	4½	7	9½	6	9	10½
Boots	700	34	46	56	17½	25	31
(*720)	750	11	23½	32½	47½	53	59½
Br Airways	650	51	67	78	8	18	21
(*697)	700	22½	38½	49½	27½	39	42
BP	710	45	60½	71	12½	22	30½
(*731½)	750	18½	35½	46	37	49	54½
Br Steel	140	12	13½	14½	5	8	10
(*148)	160	2½	5½	7	20	21½	23½
C & W	460	45½	55½	66	9	16½	22½
(*496½)	500	22	33	44½	25½	34	40½
CU	700	46	68½	85	26	50½	58
(*713½)	750	23	47	62½	53	75½	85½
ICI	750	30½	48½	63½	21	34	37
(*756½)	800	14½	25½	41	58½	62½	65
Land Sec	800	44	54½	64½	12½	21	27
(*836)	850	13½	29½	39	40½	47	52½
M & S	500	17½	29½	38½	18½	22½	27½
(*504½)	550	3½	11½	17	55	57	59½
Nat West	750	43	57½	75	21	39	45
(*764½)	800	20½	34½	52	48	66½	71½
Safeway plc	330	13½	20½	27	17	20½	25
(*332½)	360	4	10	16	39	41	44½
Sainsbury	330	21½	28	35	7½	11½	14½
(*349)	360	6	14	21	24	27	30½
Shell	1100	44	70	89½	27½	46	56
(*1105)	1150	22½	46	62	56	73½	83
Smkl Bch	1000	50½	79½	100	36	51	60
(*1005)	1050	28½	55½	75½	64½	77½	86
Storehse	300	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	330	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trafalgar	50	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	60	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zeneca	1900	98½	138	178½	64	96	107½
(*1909)	2000	49	91½	131	121½	150½	160
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAT Ind	500	48½	58½	70½	15	26½	33
(*530)	550	23	34½	46½	36½	52½	58
Vodafone	260	24	31½	37½	6	11	14½
(*276½)	280	12½	21½	27	14½	20	24
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	500	18	31½	41½	4	16½	21
(*512½)	550	1	10½	19	37½	35	49½
Ladbroke	220	19	26½	30½	0	3½	7
(*229)	240	4½	14	19	5	11	15
Utd Bisc	220	4½	14½	18	4½	10½	15½
(*220)	240	0	6½	10	20	23	27½

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA	500	44	52	60	6	11	16
(*536)	550	13	24	33½	29	33½	39
Thames W..	650	36	45	50½	31	37	45
(*662½)	700	14½	24	30½	63½	67½	75
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	260	10½	19½	24½	2½	9	13½
(*267½)	280	1½	10	15	13½	18½	24
Br Aero	1250	39½	84	106½	10	32½	49
(*1276½)	1300	13	57½	79½	34	56½	71½
Br Telcm	430	40	49½	51½	0	10½	13
(*459)	460	8	27½	36	8	29	31½
Cadbury	500	25	42	49½	1½	10	16½
(*522)	550	2½	16½	25	28½	35	42
Guinness	500	17½	34½	44½	3	12½	17½
(*514)	550	0½	11	21	36	40½	44
GEC	360	12	22	28	2½	14½	19
(*366½)	390	1	8½	15	21½	33½	37
Hanson	300	17	29	33½	2	9½	14½
(*314½)	330	2	13½	19	17	24½	30
LASMO	220	11½	19	25½	2½	8	11½
(*228½)	240	2½	10	17	13½	18	21
LucasVarity	180	12½	18	21	1	5½	8½
(*191)	200	2	9	12	10	16	19
Pilkington	110	5½	9½	-	1	4½	-
(*114)	120	1	5	-	6½	12½	-
Prudential	600	37½	58½	69½	2	14½	22
(*634)	650	8	30	42	21½	36	45
Redland	330	17½	24	31	5½	16	21
(*347)	360	1	11	20	27	33½	38
R-Royce	240	6	20	26	2½	10	14
(*246)	260	1½	11	16½	15½	21	24
Tesco	360	17	26½	36	2½	9	14½
(*374½)	390	1½	14	20½	17	24	27
Williams	330	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	360	-	-	-	-	-	-

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Abby Nat	800	71	87	104½	12	27	35
(*849)	850	40	58½	77	30	48	57
Amstrad	140	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	160	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays	1200	59½	85½	115½	43½	67½	81½
(*1201)	1250	36	63	91½	71½	97	122½
Natl Pwr	500	37½	44½	47½	27½	26	37½
(*524½)	550	15	20	23½	51½	55	60
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo W	1150	76½	97	123½	23	41½	52
(*1192½)	1200	46½	69	96	44	64	73½
HSBC	1700	88½	122½	162	62	91½	119
(*1707)	1800	47	78	116	131	146½	167
Reuter	650	51	66	93½	13	28½	32
(*678)	700	24	40	57½	36	45	55½
Royal & Sun	500	29	42	52	13½	25	30½
(*509)	550	8½	20	30	45	53	58½
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Blue Circ	420	11	24	36	5	15½	22
(*425½)	460	0½	11	16	34½	39½	45
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Kingfishr	700	15	42	57½	20	25	37½
(*705)	750	1	21	30½	45½	54	57
	Series	Jun			Jun		
Br Gas	220	14	-	-	4	-	-
(*230)	240	7	-	-	12½	-	-
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Dixons	500	34½	46	57½	8	21½	25½
(*524)	550	10	21½	33½	31	40½	[illegible]
EMI Group	1200	67	97	119½	14½	40½	67
(*1237½)	1250	39½	71	94	[illegible]	[illegible]	94
Tarmac	120	9	13½	15	2	5	7
(*126)	130	3½	8	10	6½	9	12½
Hillsdwn	160	21	24½	-	0	1½	-
(*179½)	180	6	10½	-	5	7½	-
Lonrho	130	9½	13	16½	2	3½	7
(*135½)	140	4	8	11½	7	10½	12
Sears	90	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorn EMI	1500	-	-	-	-	-	-
(unq)	1600	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tomkins	260	20	25½	25	2	9	11
(*275½)	280	4	14	17½	10	18	21
Lloyds TSB	550	38	53	66½	10	19½	25½
(*577)	600	13	27½	41½	37½	44	52½
Scot Pwr	360	21	28	32	5	14	21
(*371½)	390	3½	13½	18	24	35	39
Unilever	1600	70	110	135½	16	35	43
(*1646)	1700	19½	57½	81	65	83½	96½

FTSE INDEX (*4541)

	4400	4450	4500	4550	4600	4650
Calls						
May	149	102½	59½	28½	10	2½
Jun	182	143	107½	77	53	33
Jul	214	175½	143	112	86½	63
Aug	227	191½	160	127	104	80
Dec	320½	-	254½	-	196	-
Puts						
May	5½	7	16½	36	70½	117
Jun	29	41	55	76	101½	135
Jul	47	58½	76	95½	120½	149
Aug	69	75	93½	113	139½	166½
Dec	110	-	142½	-	185½	-

May 7, 1997 Tot: 50073 Call: 36778 Put: 23295 FTSE Call: 25250 Put: 30??
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 183129	Jun 97	113-08	113-18	113-01	113-09	103792
	Sep 97	113-14	113-17	113-08	113-15	1961
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest: 299891	Jun 97	101.80	101.85	101.67	101.76	100969
	Sep 97	100.78	100.78	100.70	100.75	2333
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest: 115280	Jun 97	128.75	129.35	128.61	129.23	60008
	Sep 97	129.57	129.57	129.36	129.50	198
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 97	124.46	124.65	124.36	124.60	4705
	Sep 97	123.17	123.28	123.08	123.26	2816
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 97	93.40	93.43	93.40	93.42	16207
	Sep 97	93.19	93.21	93.16	93.19	28802
Previous open interest: 481037	Dec 97	93.05	93.06	93.00	93.01	26710
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest: 1394230	Jun 97	96.79	96.79	96.78	96.78	11389
	Sep 97	96.74	96.74	96.72	96.72	16879
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest: 305375	Jun 97	93.26	93.28	93.23	93.25	12938
	Sep 97	93.55	93.58	93.51	93.55	7285
Three Mth Euroyen	Sep 97				99.15	0
	Dec 97	98.95	98.95	98.95	98.94	100
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest: 126262	Jun 97	98.16	98.16	98.09	98.12	6148
	Sep 97	98.15	98.15	98.08	98.12	5873
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest: 31951	Jun 97	95.83	95.84	95.80	95.82	393
	Sep 97	95.83	95.83	95.81	95.82	480
FTSE 100 Previous open interest: 64078	Jun 97	4551.0	4575.0	4531.0	4553.0	13603
	Sep 97	4566.0	4598.0	4568.0	4585.0	92

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¾
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 5 Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅜; 3 mth 6⁷⁄₁₆. Sell: 2 mth 6⁵⁄₁₆; 3 mth. 6⅜.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 6¼, close 5					
Local Authority Deps:	6¼	n/a	6½	6¾	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.60	n/a	5.71	5.91	6.17
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	6-5⅞	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	3⅛-3	[illegible]	[illegible]	3¼-2½
French Franc:	3⅛-3	3-3⅛	[illegible]	[illegible]	3¼-2¾
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2¼-1¼
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $340.35-340.65 **Close:** $340.70-341.20 **High:** $341.40-341.90
Low: $340.00-340.50 **AM:** $340.65 **PM:** $341.10

Krugerrand: $340.00-343.00 (£207.75-209.75)

Platinum: $373.00 (£228.15) **Silver:** $4.74 (£2.885) **Palladium:** $155.00 (£94.80)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mid Rates for May 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.1637-3.1743	3.1637-3.1668	½-¼pr	2¼-2⅛pr
Brussels	58.029-58.270	58.029-58.129	18-13pr	50-44pr
Copenhagen	10.707-10.748	10.707-10.717	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.0805-1.0868	1.0823-1.0843	1ds-2pr	12-6pr
Frankfurt	2.8123-2.8213	2.8123-2.8155	[illegible]pr	2⅛-2pr
Lisbon	282.70-283.48	282.70-282.95	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Madrid	237.26-238.10	237.26-237.46	21-11pr	71-53pr
Milan	2782.0-2795.1	2782.0-2785.1	9-25ds	30-42ds
Montreal	2.2494-2.2651	2.2592-2.2615	0.65-0.69pr	1.24-1.16
New York	1.6348-1.6380	1.6360-1.6370	0.095-0.075pr	0.283-0.262pr
Oslo	11.646-11.675	11.651-11.662	[illegible]pr	1-¼pr
Paris	9.4890-9.5220	9.4896-9.4962	2⅛-2pr	7⅛-7pr
Stockholm	12.650-12.722	12.650-12.670	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	204.11-205.55	204.17-204.44	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3pr
Vienna	19.793-19.860	19.793-19.816	[illegible]pr	1⅛-1pr
Zurich	2.3847-2.3930	2.3894-2.3901	1-⅞pr	2⅛-2pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2878-1.2894
Austria	12.09-12.10
Belgium (Com)	35.45-35.50
Canada	1.3810-1.3815
Denmark	6.5435-6.5455
France	5.7975-5.8005
Germany	1.7186-1.7193
Hong Kong	7.7460-7.7470
Ireland	1.5105-1.5125
Italy	1701.20-1701.95
Japan	124.68-124.73
Malaysia	2.5092-2.5102
Netherlands	1.9331-1.9341
Norway	7.1225-7.1285
Portugal	172.78-172.83
Singapore	1.4453-1.4463
Spain	145.05-145.15
Sweden	7.7278-7.7353
Switzerland	1.4569-1.4579

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6378-1.6405
Australia dollar	2.1090-2.1116
Bahrain dinar	0.6100-0.6220
Brazil real*	1.7403-1.7447
China yuan	13.398-13.698
Cyprus pound	0.8335-0.8435
Finland markka	8.4300-8.5460
Greece drachma	444.0-451.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.6802-12.6896
India rupee	58.14-59.10
Indonesia rupiah	3936.0-4004.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4920-0.5020
Malaysia ringgit	4.1076-4.1117
New Zealand dollar	2.3908-2.3947
Pakistan rupee	65.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8900-6.0140
Singapore dollar	2.3660-2.3690
S Africa rand (com)	7.2300-7.3320
U A E dirham	5.9400-6.0640

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	797	Land Secs	2,900
ASDA Gp	8,800	Legal & Gn	7,300
Abbey Ntl	2,400	Lloyds TSB	12,700
Allied Dom	3,300	LucasVarity	5,000
AB Foods	542	Marks Spr	2,100
BAA	2,400	Mercury Asset	245
BAT Inds	3,000	NatWst Bk	5,000
BG	41,900	Nat Grid	7,400
BOC	653	Nat Power	2,300
BP	9,200	Next	1,100
BSkyB	4,600	Orange	997
BTR	12,100	*P & O*	2,000
BT	22,100	Pearson	1,800
Bk of Scot	4,100	PowerGen	1,900
Barclays	3,200	Prudential	5,900
Bass	3,100	RMC	834
Blue Circle	2,600	RTZ	1,600
Boots	2,900	Railtrack	2,800
BAe	4,700	*Rank Group*	2,800
BA	2,300	Reckitt Col	3,000
British Land	7,000	Reed Intl	2,800
Brit Steel	2,700	Rentokil Intl	3,400
Burmah Cstl	245	Reuters	4,700
Burton	5,300	Rolls Royce	5,500
Cable Wire	5,400	Royal & Sun	5,800
Cadbury	2,600	*Royal Bk Sct*	9,000
Carlton Cms	2,000	Safeway	8,500
Centrica	11,900	Sainsbury	9,200
Cm Union	1,600	Schroders	398
Dixons	1,400	Scot & New	1,700
EMI	800	Scot Power	1,900
Energy Gp	2,700	Svrn Trent	548
Enterpr Oil	2,100	*Shell Trans*	5,300
GKN	1,400	Siebe	1,800
GRE	1,900	SmKl Bch	2,300
GUS	1,100	Smith Nph	3,600
Gen Acc	989	Smiths Inds	1,800
Gen Elec	8,900	*Std Chartd*	2,300
Glaxo Well	4,400	TI Gp	442
Granada	3,800	Tate & Lyle	7,900
Grand Met	4,700	Tesco	4,800
Guinness	1,300	Thames W	823
HSBC	2,800	Tomkins	4,900
Hanson	2,600	Unilever	2,600
Hays	1,500	Utd Utilities	675
ICI	16,400	Utd News	861
Imp Tob	2,400	Vodafone	3,300
Kingfisher	960	Whitbread	3,700
LASMO	3,000	Wolseley	588
Ladbroke	2,600	Zeneca	731

	May 7 midday	May 6 close
AMP Inc	38¾	37
AMR Corp	92½	91¼
AT & T	33¾	33¾
Abbott Labs	63⅝	63¾
Advanced Micro	43¾	42¾
Aetna Life	96¼	95¾
Ahmanson (HF)	40¼	40⅛
Air Prod & Chem	74¼	74
AirTouch Comm	25¼	25½
Albertson's	32⅛	32⅞
Alcan Alumnm	35⅞	35¾
Allied Signal	75⅝	75¼
Alum Co of Am	72¼	72⅛
Amerada Hess	50⅜	50⅞
Amer Brands	54⅝	54⅛
Amer El Power	40⅛	42⅛
Amer Express	68	68⅛
Amer Genl Corp	44⅞	44⅜
Amer Home Pr	70⅝	71⅝
Amer Intl	132⅝	133⅝
Amer Stores	46⅞	47⅛
Amer Standard	42⅛	41¼
Ameritech	68	68⅞
Amoco	84¼	84⅛
Andrew Corp	28⅞	28⅛
Anheuser-Busch	42⅞	42⅛
Apple Computer	16¼	16⅞
Archer Daniels	19¼	18⅞
Armco	3⅞	3⅞
Armstrng Wrld	66⅞	66⅞
Asarco	29⅛	29⅛
Atl Richfield	144¾	144
Auto Data Pro	48⅞	48⅞
Avery Dennison	39⅞	38⅞
Avon Products	61¼	61⅞
Baker Hughes	36	35⅞
Baltim Gas & El	26⅞	26⅛
Banc One	43⅞	44
BankAmerica	118⅞	118⅜
Bank of NY	40⅞	40⅞
Bankers Tr NY	83⅞	83⅞
Barnett Banks	50⅞	50⅞
Bausch & Lomb	41¼	41¼
Baxter Intl	48⅞	48⅞
Becton Dicksn	47⅞	47⅞
Bell Atlantic	66⅛	66⅛
Bell Industries	17⅞	18⅞
BellSouth	45	45⅞
Black & Decker	34⅞	34⅞
Block (H&R)	32⅞	32⅛
Boeing	100⅞	100⅞
Boise Cascade	34⅞	34
Boston Scien	50⅞	50
Bristol Myrs Sq	66	67⅞
Browning Ferris	29⅞	29⅞
Brunswick	29⅞	30⅛
Burlington Nthn	79	79⅞
CMS Energy Corp	33⅛	33⅞
CNA Financial	101¼	102
CPC Intl	85⅞	85⅞
CSX	47⅞	47⅞
Campbell Soup	49⅞	50
Can Pacific	26	26
Carolina Pwr	34⅞	35⅞
Case Corp	58⅞	58⅞
Caterpillar	93⅞	96⅞
Central & SW	22	22⅞
Champion Intl	48⅞	47⅞
Chase Manhat	96⅞	98⅞
Chevron Corp	69⅞	69⅞
Chrysler	31¼	31
Chubb Corp	58⅞	58⅞
Cigna Corp	160⅞	162
Citicorp	116⅞	118⅞
Clorox	128⅞	126⅞
Coastal Corp	49⅞	49⅞
Coca Cola	66⅞	66⅞
Coca Cola Ent	59	59
Colgate-Palm	112⅞	111¼
Columbia Gas	64⅞	64⅞
Columbia/HCA	36⅞	37⅞
Compaq Comp	89⅞	90⅞
Comp Ass Intl	52⅞	52⅞
ConAgra	59⅞	59
Conrail	114⅞	114⅞
Cons Edison	29⅞	30
Cons Nat Gas	51¼	51¼
Cooper Inds	48⅞	47⅞
CoreStates	52⅞	53
Corning Inc	49⅞	50⅞
Crown Cork	55⅞	55⅞
Dana Corp	34⅞	34
Dayton Hudson	46⅞	46⅞
Deere	47⅞	47⅞
Delta Air Lines	93⅞	93⅞
Deluxe Corp	32⅞	32⅞
Digital Equip	30⅞	30⅞
Dillard Dept St	31¼	31¼
Disney (Walt)	81⅞	82⅞
Dominion Res	36	35⅞
Donnelley (RR)	34⅞	35⅞
Dover Corp	55⅞	55⅞
Dow Chemical	87⅞	87⅞
Dow Jones	40⅞	40⅞
Dresser	30⅞	30⅞
Duke Power	45⅞	45⅞
Dun & Bradstreet	26	26⅞
Du Pont	109⅞	110⅞
Eastman Chem	53⅞	53⅞
Eastman Kodak	83⅞	83⅞

	May 7 midday	May 6 close
Eaton Corp	79½	79
Edison Intl	22	22¼
Elect Data Sys	37	36½
Emerson Elec	52⅛	52⅛
Engelhard Corp	21¼	21¼
Enron Corp	39⅛	39⅛
Entergy	25⅛	25⅛
Ethyl Corp	9¼	9⅛
Exxon	58⅛	58⅛
FMC Corp	68⅛	68⅛
FPL Group	46⅛	47⅛
Federal Express	54⅛	53⅛
First Bk Sys	80⅛	80⅛
First Union Rlty	n/a	13⅛
Fleet Fin Grp	62⅛	63⅛
Fluor Corp	47⅛	55⅛
Ford Motor	35⅛	35⅛
GTE Corp	44¼	45⅛
Gannett	90	90⅛
Gap Inc Del	32	32⅛
Gencorp	19⅛	19⅛
Gen Dynamics	77	73⅛
Gen Electric	116⅛	116⅛
Gen Mills	63⅛	63⅛
Gen Motors	58⅛	58⅛
Gen Reinsurance	169⅛	169⅛
Gen Signal	40⅛	40⅛
Genuine Parts	33⅛	33⅛
Georgia Pac	79⅛	79⅛
Gillette	85⅛	85⅛
Glaxo Wellc ADR	39⅛	39⅛
Goodrich (BF)	42⅛	41⅛
Goodyear Tire	53⅛	53⅛
Gt Atl Pac Tea	26⅛	26⅛
Great West Fin	44⅛	44⅛
Halliburton	71⅛	71¼
Harcourt General	47¼	47⅛
Heinz (HJ)	42⅛	42⅛
Hercules	43⅛	41⅛
Hershey Foods	56⅛	56⅛
Hewlett Packard	52⅛	54⅛
Hilton Hotels	28	28
Home Depot	59⅛	59⅛
Homestake Mng	14¼	13⅛
Honeywell	74⅛	74
Household Intl	89	89
Houston Inds	22⅛	23⅛
Humana	21¼	21¼
ITT Corp	60⅛	60⅛
Ikon Office	29⅛	28⅛
Illinois Tool	95⅛	94⅛
Illinova	23⅛	23⅛
INCO	33	33⅛
Ingersoll Rand	51	51⅛
Inland Steel	23⅛	23⅛
Intel Corp	156⅛	158
IBM	166⅛	165⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	43⅛	44
Intl Paper	44⅛	45⅛
James River Va	31	31¼
Johnson & Jhnsn	60⅛	61⅛
Kellogg	71¼	71⅛
Kerr-McGee	62⅛	63⅛
Kimberly-Clark	53⅛	54
Kmart	13⅛	13⅛
Knight-Ridder	40⅛	39⅛
Lilly (Eli)	90⅛	90⅛
Limited Inc	18⅛	18⅛
Lincoln Nat	57⅛	58⅛
Litton	45⅛	45⅛
Liz Claiborne	44⅛	44⅛
Lockheed Martin	92⅛	93⅛
Louisiana Pac	19⅛	19⅛
MCI Comm	38⅛	37⅛
Manpower Inc	40⅛	41
Marriott Intl	56⅛	57
Marsh & McLen	120⅛	120
Masco Corp	38⅛	38⅛
May Dept St	46⅛	47⅛
Maytag Corp	23⅛	23⅛
McDonalds	54	54⅛
McDonnell D	59⅛	58⅛
McGraw Hill	52⅛	52⅛
Mead Corp	57⅛	57⅛
Medtronic	68	67⅛
Mellon Bk	83⅛	84⅛
Merck Inc	91⅛	92⅛
Merrill Lynch	99⅛	100⅛
Microsoft	117⅛	117⅛
Minnesota Mine	90⅛	90⅛
Mobil Corp	132⅛	131¼
Monsanto	44⅛	45⅛
Morgan (JP)	104⅛	104⅛
Motorola Inc	61⅛	61¼
Natl Semi	25⅛	25⅛
Natl Service Ind	42⅛	42⅛
Navistar Intl	11¼	11¼
NY Times A	43⅛	44
Newmont Mng	37⅛	36
Niag Mohawk	8⅛	8⅛
Nike B	58⅛	59⅛
NL Industries	11¼	11¼
Noram Energy	15⅛	15⅛
Nordstrom	41¼	41¼
Norfolk Sthrn	91¼	91¼
Nthn State Pwr	46⅛	46⅛
Norwest Corp	52⅛	52⅛
Nynex Corp	52⅛	52⅛
Occidental Pet	22⅛	22⅛
Ohio Edison	20⅛	20⅛

	May 7 midday	May 6 close
Oracle	43⅛	43⅛
Oryx Energy Co	20⅛	20⅛
Owens Corning	42	42
PHH Corp	48⅛	48⅛
PPG Industries	57⅛	57⅛
PNC Bank	43⅛	43⅛
PP&L Res	20⅛	20⅛
Paccar Inc	81	80⅛
Pacificorp	20⅛	20⅛
Pac Enterprises	32⅛	33
Pall Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Parker Hannifin	51¼	51⅛
Pecn Energy	20⅛	20⅛
Penney (JC)	49⅛	49
Pennzoil	50⅛	50
Pepsico	36⅛	36⅛
Pfizer	99⅛	99⅛
Pharm & Upjhn	31¼	31¼
Phelps Dodge	77⅛	78⅛
Philip Morris	42	41⅛
Phillips Pet	40⅛	40⅛
Pitney Bowes	67⅛	66⅛
Polaroid	49⅛	49⅛
Procter & Gmbl	131¼	132⅛
Providian	57⅛	58
Pub Serv E & G	25⅛	25⅛
Quaker Oats	41⅛	41⅛
Ralston Purina	83⅛	83
Raychem Corp	68	67⅛
Raytheon	46⅛	47
Reebok Intl	38⅛	38⅛
Reynolds Metals	66⅛	66⅛
Rockwell Intl	67⅛	66
Rohm & Haas	82	82⅛
Royal Dutch	184⅛	184⅛
Rubbermaid	24⅛	26⅛
SBC Comms	56⅛	56⅛
Safeco Corp	42	42
St Paul's Cos	71⅛	70⅛
Salomon Inc	53	53⅛
Sara Lee Corp	42⅛	42⅛
Schering Plough	83⅛	84⅛
Schlumberger	113⅛	113⅛
Seagram	40	40⅛
Sears Roebuck	50⅛	50⅛
Shell Trans	108⅛	107⅛
Sherwin Wlms	31¼	31¼
Skyline Corp	23⅛	23⅛
Snap-On-Tools	39⅛	39⅛
Southern Co	20⅛	21⅛
Sprint Corp	46⅛	46⅛
Stanley Works	39⅛	39⅛
Sun Company	28⅛	29⅛
Sun Microsys	30⅛	30⅛
Suntrust	53⅛	53⅛
Supervalu	31⅛	31¼
Sysco Corp	39⅛	39⅛
TRW Inc	54⅛	55
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅛
TRG Hldgs	28	28⅛
Tandem Comp	13⅛	13⅛
Tandy Corp	53⅛	53⅛
Temple Inland	57⅛	57⅛
Tenneco	42⅛	42⅛
Texaco	108⅛	107⅛
Texas Inst	93	92
Texas Utilities	36⅛	36⅛
Textron	116⅛	118
Thermo Elect	37⅛	37⅛
Time Warner	45⅛	45
Times-Mirror A	55⅛	55⅛
Timken	55⅛	60
Torchmark	64⅛	64⅛
Toys R Us	29	29
Transamerica	85	85⅛
Travelers	56⅛	56⅛
Tribune	44⅛	45⅛
Tyco Intl	62⅛	62⅛
UST Inc	28	28⅛
UAL	75⅛	75⅛
US Inds	35⅛	35⅛
US West Comm	36⅛	36⅛
US West Media	17⅛	18⅛
USAirways Group	32⅛	32⅛
USX Marathon	28	28⅛
Unicom	22⅛	22⅛
Unilever NV	198⅛	197⅛
Union Camp	50⅛	49⅛
Union Carbide	49⅛	49⅛
Union Pacific	65	65⅛
Unisys Corp	6⅛	6⅛
USF&G Corp	20⅛	20⅛
US Life	48⅛	48⅛
United Tech	78	78⅛
Unocal Corp	38⅛	38⅛
VF Corp	75⅛	75⅛
WMX Tech	29⅛	29⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	28⅛	28⅛
Warner-Lambert	99⅛	99⅛
Wells Fargo	274⅛	280⅛
Westinghouse El	17⅛	17⅛
Weyerhaeuser	47⅛	47⅛
Whirlpool	48⅛	48⅛
Whitman	24	24
Winn Dixie	34⅛	34⅛
Woolworth	21⅛	21⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	59⅛	59⅛
Xerox	64⅛	64⅛
Zenith Elec	11	10⅛

Help create three million Downing Streets

Last Friday, a delightful picture winged its way round the world. It showed Tony Blair, his successful wife and their three charming children on the steps of their new home at 10 Downing Street. Within about 24 hours, this turned out to be the first Big Lie of the new administration, albeit a white one and unspoken.

So much of the roomy house originally meant to be the Prime Minister's residence is now taken up with machinery of government that *the remaining flat is too poky* for a family with children. So the Blairs are swapping with the *bachelor Chancellor next door*.

Never mind. The principle remains. When you have a really *important job*, it pays to live above the shop. The Blairs, like John Major (and Gordon Brown next *door*), have not moved in just for security reasons. A tasteful pad in Islington would be fine for most *people, but when you really have* to focus on the nation's business, you need to cut out that morning *commuting* and have your *staff* on hand with the morning coffee. You gain from being *physically at the* heart of the action with your own finger on the pulse. Otherwise, like the Bank of *England's dedicated* Governor, you need to be in so early in the morning that you *might as well have stayed* the night. As many entrepreneurs and chief executives have discovered, *running* a country well, like making the most of a business, is not just a job.

The British economy, business and families have suffered much by forgetting this. Some economic historians trace the decline of the British economy all the way back to the later days of the industrial revolution, when Birmingham ironmasters started apeing the gentry by building villas for their families in leafy Edgbaston. Even the influence of Rothschild's, seemingly at its zenith at the end of the *19th* century, is said to have been already doomed to decline once the *family* became *addicted* to vast country estates. Ironically, earlier landowning magnates took their eye off the ball when they started spending most of their time in big London houses.

This is not just history. Stanley Morton, who built the Abbey National Building Society from relative obscurity to eminence, ruled it from a flat perched at the top of Abbey House. That old-*fashioned* entrepreneur Richard Branson controls his empire from his villa in London's Holland Park though, as a precedent for Mr Blair, business took over so much space that he bought the house next door to actually live in.

The late Robert Maxwell, who ran his business from his Oxford home, then used a flat at the *Daily Mirror*, illustrates the dangers for big business. Living above the shop is strictly for those in sole control (as Mr Blair intends to be).

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

And you can easily mix up public and private money.

In a decentralised corporation, there is much to be said for top directors taking a detached, strategic role — especially for their own gilded lifestyles. Granada's Gerry Robinson, a fashionable figure for modern professional managers, reckons you can run the biggest enterprise on four days a week.

For the country's three million self-employed, the wealth-creating sector's growing army of *foot soldiers*, there are *no ifs* or *buts* about who is running the show. There is often no one else, except perhaps your spouse and family. There is no danger of mixing up business and family finances. They are the same. Remember please, Mr Brown, John Prescott and Mr Blair that, although these enterprises are so different from your own, there is no more important business than one on which a family depends.

The traditional family is an economically efficient care unit for the state. Anyone who has seen the impact of its decline on the social security Budget will testify to that. Families that work apart and grow apart sometimes do not help.

Similarly, for a high proportion of more than two million tiny businesses run by the self-employed, living above the shop or working in the annexe is a huge aid to efficiency. Often, that alone *makes a family-supporting enterprise* viable in hard times.

Those who literally keep shops have *seen their natural advantages* stripped away by a series of legal and tax measures. Seven-day working *laws allow multiples to* rely on part-timers and undercut someone who has to earn a living. Planning laws spawned big shopping developments that exclude individuals and have stripped shops away from living quarters.

Finally, tax laws have, as if deliberately, removed the efficiency gains of living above the shop. The shop, the annexe used as an office or the garage used as a pottery or to repair mountain bikes, instead of being just part of the family property for council tax, are taxed nationally at the Uniform Business Rate. And there are anti-business complications for capital gains and other taxes too.

Even with transitional relief, this rising tax has destroyed thousands of businesses. In the *search for extra revenue*, the Uniform Business Rate will seem an attractive option. It could be *disastrous for thousands more*.

Running a business from home, or living on the premises, are *lifestyles naturally set to grow as* big plants shrink employment and more individual services are needed. Computers, the *Internet* and broad-band communications will stimulate more living and working in the same place. Wearing *his* transport hat, Mr Prescott will note that this is the only painless way to ease travel pollution and congestion. It will only happen if the Treasury and planners help.

A refreshingly radical start can be made in Mr Brown's July Budget by exempting all proprietors who can show they genuinely live on modest business premises from Uniform Business Rates. Subsequent Budgets can close the loopholes.

Old-style pubs left behind in food and family revolution

Whitbread is at the forefront of change as brewers adapt to new leisure patterns, says Martin Waller

There is a marvellous vignette in the film *An American Werewolf in London* when two artless American students *blunder into Hollywood's idea* of a British country pub. All conversation stops; the all-male *drinkers glower from within* a dim, dingy den at the newcomers, then gradually return to their pints and their darts.

Like most Hollywood visions of British culture, this is at least 20 years out of date. The pub from hell still exists, on the outskirts of sink housing estates and in dark, benighted corners of the inner city.

But had our American backpackers stepped into a typical public house today, they could as easily have found a bright, airy, well-furnished area, keen to welcome women and even children, serving good food and a well-kept selection of wines. It would have looked more like a restaurant than a pub of old. The transformation would have cost the owner, perhaps a big brewer or as likely one of an entirely new breed of entrepreneurial pub chains, a six-figure sum to achieve, and they wold have counted it money well spent.

Whitbread is regarded in the City as the leader among the traditional brewers at developing new brands of retail estate, and yesterday's figures give an indication why. Operating profits from the managed inns division were ahead by 14 per cent, while those from the traditional tied estate of tenanted pubs fell by 2.3 per cent. The flagship Brewers Fayre inns saw operating profits up by a third, helped by Whitbread's gradual churning of the estate by selling less profitable units while opening new ones.

These may not be fair comparisons — there were one-off costs on the tenanted pubs side, *and the* fall there more accurately reflects the 12 per cent of the estate sold *since* last year — *but it indicates* why investment in tied pubs stayed little changed at just £17 million *while Whitbread* ploughed back £163 million, a rise of 20 per cent into its managed inns.

Mark Puleikis, drinks analyst at Merrill Lynch, says Whitbread under Peter Jarvis, *its chief* executive *until* next month, has been pre-eminent for some years now at creating *and running food and* family-led pubs. "I think one of Peter's great qualities is marketing, *and spotting growth* trends in the market. For some time he has felt that the UK eating out *market* was immature, and the focus of investment has been on expanding food-led concepts."

British pubs have altered considerably since The Rovers Return in Ena Sharples's day

This has led Whitbread into the purchase of specialist restaurant chains such as Pelican Group, for £133 million last July, and BrightReasons, owner of Pizzaland and bought for £46 million in September — and into some flak for allegedly paying over the odds for some of them, as well as for other diversifications such as David Lloyd Leisure, the chain of health clubs.

It is significant that when Mr Jarvis's successor was announced in December, he was David Thomas, head of the restaurants and leisure division. But Whitbread, five years ago, would have seemed an unlikely business to pioneer a revolution in public taste, because the company was one of the most entrenched members of the old "beerage", that slice of the aristocracy with strong Conservative Party links that controlled a huge chunk of the production, distribution and sale of the country's beer production.

Two events set the scene for the change. The issue of the "Beer Orders" in 1989 was the Government's attempt to weaken the tie between the brewers of beer such as Whitbread and the pubs that they owned and operated as a captive market for their product, and to introduce competition by opening that market to interlopers. The top six brewers were required to sell, in all, 11,000 outlets.

The Beer Orders are widely regarded as a failure, in that they failed to force down the price of a pint, one stated object, and the big brewers emerged from the exercise financially stronger, having sold the worst performers in their estates and taken huge write-offs against profits that could conveniently be blamed on government policy.

But they succeeded in introducing a whole raft of new entrants into the pubs market, which either bought outlets from the big players forced to sell and gained attractive supply deals from their brewing arms or simply started up good quality greenfield sites, a route taken by the phenomenally successful J D Wetherspoon group.

The second precursor for change at Whitbread was at Jarvis's instigation: the unravelling, starting in 1993, of the complex and outdated split share structure and cross-holding with the Whitbread Investment Company which had cast a cloud over the company's standing in the City.

The other big brewers swiftly created their own wholly owned food and family brands of pubs and restaurants, categories that in many cases blurred together and became indistinguishable. Allied Domecq has Wacky Warehouse, one of several popular park-the-kiddies-and-drink concepts, and Big Steak; Scottish & Newcastle, also respected for its managed pubs, paid £630 million for Chef & Brewer in November 1993. This was *another deal that attracted* criticism for the high price paid, criticism that looks rather less well *founded almost four* years later.

All are riding on the back of *a move away from drinking* as a pastime, for health reasons, and towards social eating out. One City estimate sees this last activity growing by 3 per cent in real terms each year to the new century. Meanwhile, the trend towards having children later in life means parents are likely to be more affluent, and more able to eat out *en famille*.

Some pub owners have missed out — Inntrepreneur, jointly owned by Grand Metropolitan and Foster's Brewing Group of Australia and the country's biggest independent chain, has very few managed houses. Almost all its pubs, down to 2,900 from 6,500 two-and-a-half years ago, are leased to tenants, who have not always enjoyed the best relations with the company over the years. They control their individual pubs, not the ultimate owner, which has precluded the creation of a themed chain. This is where the managed pub comes into its own, and why these are at a premium compared to the traditional tied house.

Inntrepreneur, which hopes to float on the stock market in a couple of years' time, now has a collection of about 30 managed pubs of its own and will grow them further — perhaps, some tenants fear, at their expense.

All this ferment in the managed pub and restaurant market has tended to leave the once-core business of brewing beer in the shade. This is in part because one of the biggest issues in that area is still undecided. The £200 million sale to Bass of Carlsberg-Tetley, jointly owned by Allied Domecq and Carlsberg of Denmark, was first mooted at least 18 months ago. The matter will eventually have to be decided by the new Government.

If Labour tries to impose conditions that are too onerous on Bass in return for allowing the deal through, it could all fall apart. But Carlsberg-Tetley will still has to be sold. Whitbread has eyed the Tetley brand before, and would be an obvious buyer, adding it to Boddingtons and Stella Artois, its own key brands. It is a move that Whitbread's founding fathers might appreciate rather more than some of the recent purchases.

Brown's revolution fires keen bout of 'Thread-watching'

Alasdair Murray on intense City speculation over the future of a reformed Bank of England

Gordon Brown's sweeping reforms of the Bank of England *create job opportunities for* economists with a yearning for power — and a salary far *above what might be earned* in academia. City speculation is now rife as to who will be *the new deputy governor and* the four new members of the monetary policy committee *that will* determine interest rates in future.

There are fears that Mr Brown may make too many political appointments from among Labour-leaning economists and academics such as Gavyn Davies, chief international economist at Goldman Sachs, and Richard Layard, a professor at the London School of Economics. Other names in the frame are Bridget Rosewell, head of Business Strategies, Martin Weale, director of the National Institute of Social and Economic Research, and Charles Goodhart, a former Bank of England adviser and LSE professor.

City economists have also voiced fears that the posts will prove insufficiently rewarding financially and in job-description terms to attract first-rate brains. The four new members will become Bank officials for the duration of their three-year terms and will be forbidden to carry on work that could cause a conflict of interest, although academics may be allowed to continue lecturing or conduct theoretical research.

The new members will prepare for the monetary policy committee but the Bank has said that it will be keen to use their skills in other aspects of its economic work. The Bank has also intimated that it wants salaries to be in line with those paid to the existing members of the committee. The new members will be treated on a par with Ian Plenderleith, head of monetary stability, and Mervyn King, chief economist, who are paid around £150,000 — a healthy increase for an academic but hardly the rewards that City economists can earn.

The fact that the new members will be Bank officials has also fuelled suspicions that they will go "native" and the City wants Mr Brown to pick candidates with a strong streak of independence.

Mr Brown has made it clear that he aims to draw on a wider range of skills than is the case with the US Federal Reserve or the Bundesbank where members are drawn from regional banks. The new system is likely to have more in common with the Bank of France where external appointees on the monetary committee have been drawn from business, finance, politics and even journalism.

The reformed monetary policy committee will be expected to face the Treasury Select Committee regularly, while the committee's proceedings — complete with voting records — will be published six weeks in arrears. The more open style has a lot in common with the Federal Reserve Bank in America, and raises the spectre of every comment by a committee member becoming market-sensitive. Just as "Fed-watching" is a favourite Wall Street game as the market attempts to second guess the next move on interest rates, "Thread-watching" will become a full-time job for the legions of City economists and market analysts.

Mr Brown is also aiming to police the committee by increasing the impact of the Court, the Bank's governing body, which functions in a similar manner to non-executive directors. Traditionally, members have been drawn *from the ranks of the* "great and the good" in the City, receiving £500 a year — *unchanged since 1945 — and free* lunches. Mr Brown wants to broaden the make-up of the *Court, adding more* industrialists, regional representatives and possibly trade *unionists, while encouraging* it to monitor Bank decision-making more actively.

There is also great uncertainty about how the committee members will function in *relation to the Government*. Treasury members will be able to attend and contribute *to the monetary policy* debates, as occurs in Germany, although they will have no voting *rights. But* Simon Briscoe, UK economist at Nikko Europe, argues that monitoring of *this nature is* insufficient to resolve tensions caused by splitting control of monetary and fiscal policy.

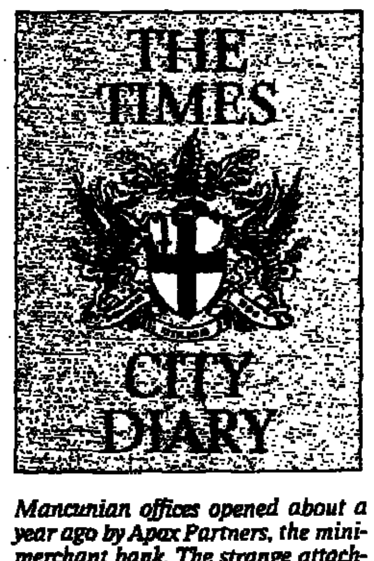
Budgets will now be planned without full knowledge of the future direction of interest rates, while the Bank, in turn, will amend interest rates without knowing the potential impact of fiscal changes in Budgets. In countries such as Germany *this* has often resulted in an excessively tight monetary policy.

But Gavyn Davies argues in an article that outlined his ideas for the Bank — which bear an uncanny resemblance to the plans revealed by Mr Brown — that the Government will be able to shift the inflation target to take account of supply-side shocks. In contrast, in Germany the Bundesbank sets the inflation target and the government cannot intervene.

The UK Government will have a right to override the Bank in "exceptional circumstances", without specifying when and how this might be used. Whether the new administration will ever need its reserve powers will depend on the Government's main lever of control — the quality of its appointments to the Bank.

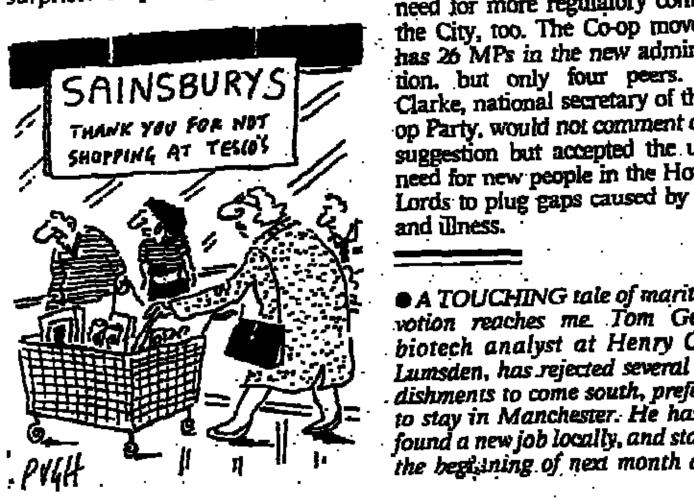
WORLDCOVER DIRECT

Peer hunting



ANY ATTEMPT by Labour to include City regulation in the *Queen's* speech, and impose a more centralised structure on all those impenetrable acronyms, will be made difficult by the shortage of House of Lords peers with the necessary commercial and financial expertise to steer the Bill past Lords Hambro, Hanson, Prior *et al*. There's always Clive Hollick, of course, and Richard Branson has, surprise, surprise, *pushed himself* forward on to the list of possibles. But *the* search is on for suitable candidates. Perhaps I might suggest a couple. Arise Lord Thomas and Lord Fyfe, or *Terry Thomas* who retires this autumn as managing director of the Co-operative Bank and Lennox Fyfe, chairman of *the Co-operative* Wholesale Society.

Veterans of the War of Andrew Regan's Ego will be welcome on the Labour benches, and they would have a few things to say about the need for more regulatory control of the City, too. The Co-op movement *has 26 MPs in the new* administration, but only four peers. Peter Clarke, national secretary of the Co-op Party, would *not comment on my* suggestion but accepted the urgent need for new people in the House of Lords to plug gaps caused by *death* and illness.



SAINSBURYS
THANK YOU FOR NOT SHOPPING AT TESCO'S
PUGH

● *A TOUCHING tale of marital devotion reaches me. Tom Geimer, biotech analyst at Henry Cooke Lumsden, has rejected several blandishments to come south, preferring to stay in Manchester. He has now found a new job locally, and starts at the beginning of next month at the Mancunian offices opened about a year ago by Apax Partners, the mini-merchant bank. The strange attachment of this German-trained US national to the North West is the research work carried out by Dr Eileen Paul at Manchester University into cellular molecular biology. "I'm very proud of my wife," he says. "I was asked many times to move to London. For personal reasons I would like to stay in this area."*

Carpet-sweeper

AN EQUALLY touching tale of revenge by the little man over the big banks. Gordon Campbell-Gray, the hotelier behind The Feathers in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, will today be at the topping-out ceremony of his latest luxury hotel, One Aldwych, which opens next spring.

As a young man seeking funds for The Feathers, he was once humiliatingly rejected by a manager at a Lloyds Bank branch in London, and never forgot looking downcast at his feet — and the bank's garish carpet. Years later he arrived at the newly purchased Aldwych site. "There was this unbelievably hideous, typically English, carpet. I asked them to remove it immediately," he says. Then the penny dropped. He had bought the same building.

● *ANOTHER day, another dose of bad luck at Triton Court. Who are the two biggest investors in Dalgety, the latest blue chip to see its shares savaged by an entirely unexpected profits warning? Step forward that well-known long-term investor PDFM, with a 19 per cent stake, and M&G, also going through a bit of a short-term sticky patch, with 13 per cent.*

Hot line

IN THE interests of fostering our special relationship with the United States, I feel it only fair to warn of an invasion by a serious pest. We have had years of getting used to that infuriating little red telephone that is synonymous with Direct Line. Now Peter Wood, founder of the insurer, tells me that his new company, Direct Response, will launch in New York State in October — complete with that damned telephone. Mr Wood's new venture has a licence to spread to 45 other states thereafter. *Doo doo diddle-ee-dee doo.*

MARTIN WALLER

Wood: taking telephone to the US

Managed Overdraft Rate Change

With effect from Wednesday 7th May 1997

The Co-operative Bank Managed Overdraft Rates

for small businesses will be as follows:

	% per month
Premium Rate	0.88
Standard Rate	0.96

The CO-OPERATIVE BANK

THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK p.l.c., HEAD OFFICE, 1 BALLOON STREET, MANCHESTER M60 4EP

Tate & Lyle soured by emerging markets

By Adam Jones

THE closure of plants in Ukraine and Bulgaria, combined with a squeeze on sugar margins in China, has forced Tate & Lyle to make provision for a £35 million paper loss.

Its emerging markets problem dragged down already weak interim results, sending the shares down 5½p to 448½p.

The sugars and sweeteners group reported a six-month profit before tax and exceptionals of £113.6 million, compared with £185.9 million last time. Exceptional costs pulled this down by a further £83.2 million, including £29.2 million for a planned reorganisation of its American activities and the writing-down of assets and write-off of goodwill in underperforming businesses.

This caused a paper loss of £25.1 million in its animal feed operations, and £34.9 million in emerging markets. Exceptional profit of £6.7 million reduced the deficit.

Emerging markets are seen as central to the long-term profitability of sugar companies because of the growth in pre-packaged food.

The third big blow from emerging markets came from the refining activities in China, where the Government has raised sugar cane prices but maintained a system of unrestricted imports, squeezing margins from two sides.

Larry Pillard, Tate & Lyle chief executive since November 1996, said a team is in Bulgaria now, looking at the possibility of reopening the plant in the light of fiscal improvement.

Profits from Domino, the US sugar refiner, recovered strongly. Mr Pillard said Staley, its cereal starch and sweetener business, performed satisfactorily in relation to competitors, despite lower earnings.

Worldwide sales fell from £2.4 billion to £2.3 billion for the six months.

The company expects improved returns from North American starch and sweetener operations in the second half. Improvements, however, will be affected by continued strength of sterling, which caused the company to lose £17.3 million in the six months.

Analysts' full-year profit expectations now range from £244 million to about £255 million, before exceptionals and tax.

The company said it is declaring a foreign income dividend this year, payable on July 15, as more profit was made from overseas. Shareholders will get the underlying dividend of 5.3p, unchanged from last year, plus an extra 25 per cent to cover the extra tax faced by many UK institutions.

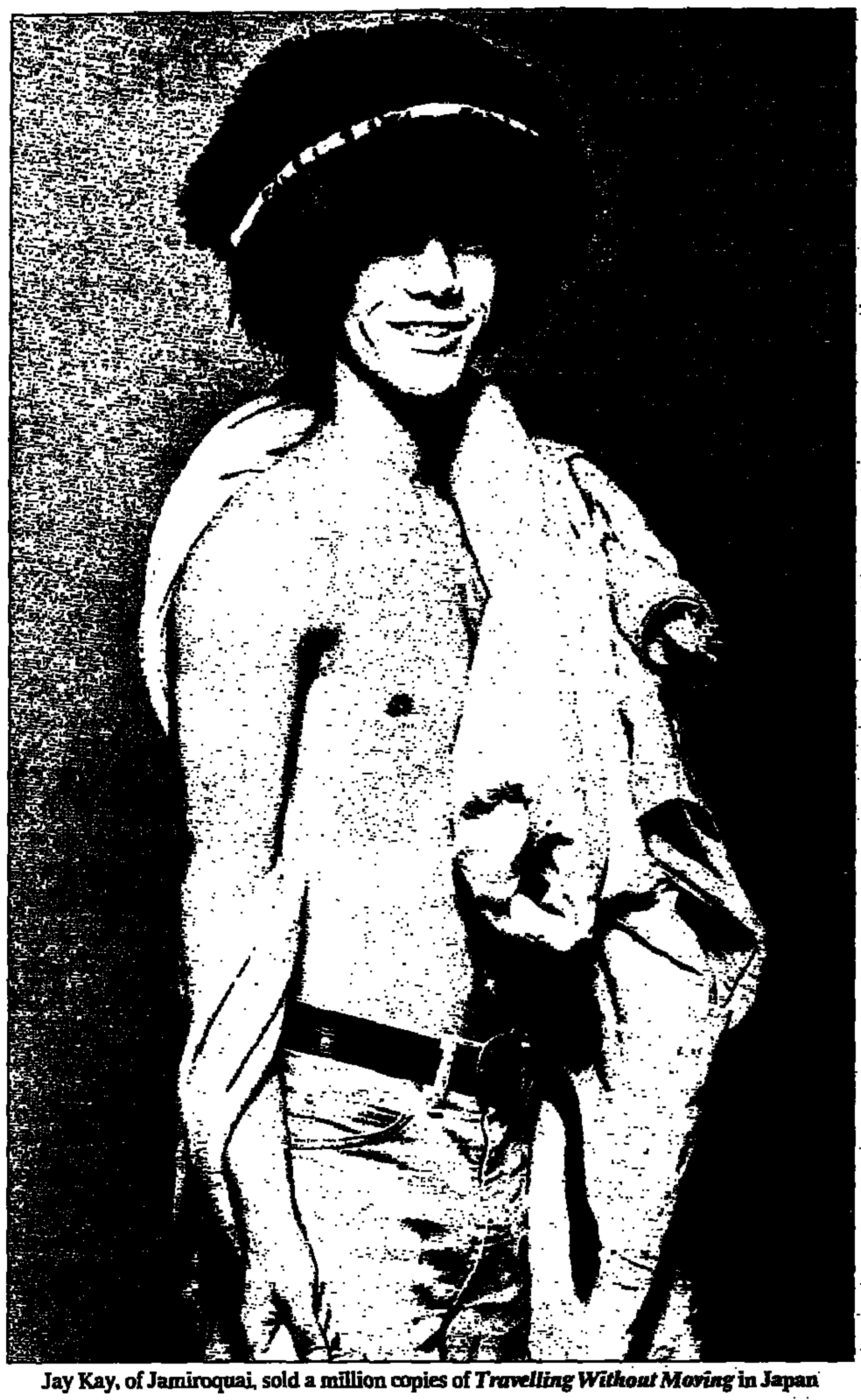
Tempus, page 28

Statement lifts shares in Booker

SHARES in Booker, the food production group, rose 13½p, to 323p, after a trading statement in which the group said that like-for-like cash-and-carry sales are up 5 per cent year on year. Jonathan Taylor, chairman, also told shareholders that overall group sales, including Nurdin & Peacock, are up by 36 per cent.

He said: "The group is on track to achieve all its main objectives, including our anticipated increase in earnings and debt reduction in 1997 and 1998.

"In food distribution, the integration of the Nurdin & Peacock cash and carry business is proceeding . . . as planned. We are initially reviewing the future of cash-and-carry depots in 13 locations."



Jay Kay, of Jamiroquai, sold a million copies of *Travelling Without Moving* in Japan

Sony hits wrong note over profits

From a Correspondent in Tokyo

SONY MUSIC, the recording company of Michael Jackson and Bruce Springsteen, blamed a lack of big hits for a 33 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to 12.80 billion yen (£63 million) in the year to March 31.

The record company, affiliated to Sony Corp, the electronics group, suffered a 10 per cent decline in sales to Y103.1 billion.

Sony has invested heavily in new artistes, particularly in Japan, a market that accounts for more than half of the company's business. Japanese artistes such as Judy and Mary, Puffy and Dreams Come True have been well received. Sales of records by home-grown artistes eased 6.5 per cent but that compared favourably with a 12.2 per cent decline in sales of music by non-Japanese music, despite the popularity of some of its artistes, such as Celine Dion and Jamiroquai. Britain's Jamiroquai sold more than one million copies of *Travelling Without Moving*, its new album, in Japan.

Classical music sales increased steadily.

In the financial year to 1998, Sony forecasts pre-tax profit of Y14.5 billion on revenue of Y215.6 billion.

Sony's custom manufacturing division was the only product group that reported an increase in sales in 1996-97. Net sales rose 4.1 per cent mainly because of robust demand for CD-Roms for software used in PlayStation, Sony Computer Entertainment's hit home video game machine.

PowerGen in £150m project with Siemens

POWERGEN, the UK electricity generation company, and Siemens, the German industrial group, have agreed to build and operate a £150 million development centre in Britain to test and demonstrate gas turbine technology in a commercial combined-cycle power plant. The joint venture, announced yesterday, clears the way for the construction of the Cottam Development Centre at the site of PowerGen's existing Cottam power station in Nottinghamshire.

The new facility, which will have capacity up to 500 megawatts, will test plant through prolonged demonstration runs rather than brief test-bed trials. Work will start this month and will create up to 500 construction jobs. When completed the centre will employ up to 50 staff. The venture comes after Department of Trade and Industry agreement to build a 24-kilometre gas pipeline from Cottam to the national gas transmission system at Blyborough, Lincolnshire.

Ruling on Renault site

THE Court of Appeal in Versailles has ruled that Renault, the car maker, must call a meeting of its European works council representing employees before it can close its Vilvoorde plant in Belgium. Renault had appealed against a ruling by a Nanterre court that it had not followed proper procedures in deciding to shut Vilvoorde. Unions had applied to the Nanterre court. Renault had planned to close Vilvoorde at the end of July. The plant employs 3,100 staff.

Grant merger denied

BURN STEWART, the distillers, said there are no talks in progress that might lead to a merger with William Grant. In a statement responding to speculation, Burn Stewart said: "There has been a trading relationship between the two companies which goes back for many years and this is expected to continue. Some months ago the possibility of a closer relationship was contemplated, but these talks were not taken any further." Shares in Burn Stewart slipped 1p to 59p.

EIB backs film project

THE European Investment Bank, the lending arm of the European Union, is lending 71 million ecus to PolyGram to help it to produce European films. ING Bank will underwrite the project, the EIB said. Sir Brian Unwin, the EIB president, said: "This is the first time the EIB has financed the film industry." The EIB said that the money would be used by PolyGram to shoot films predominantly within the EU aimed at a family audience.

HTV in licence plea

HTV GROUP, the ITV broadcaster for Wales and the West of England, called on the Independent Television Commission to publish its timetable for licence renewal and to ensure that Channel 3 licences are renewed on an individual basis. Louis Sherwood, group chairman, told HTV's annual meeting yesterday that if ITV and HTV are to be able to plan accurately for the next licence period it was essential to know precisely what future licence payments will be.

SeaCon forecast

SEA CONTAINERS, the Bermuda-based owner of Great North Eastern Railway and Hoverspeed, expects to double its earnings per share this year. James Sherwood, SeaCon's founder and president, said in the company's annual report that profits from leisure activities should hit a £24.5 million record. Overall, Mr Sherwood forecast operating profits for 1997 of £98.2 million, up from £66.7 million. That should, he said, double last year's total earnings per share of 73p.

BAA seeks Asia-Pacific hub

From Rachel Bridge in Sydney

BAA, the UK airport operator, yesterday unveiled plans to own a string of airports throughout the Asia-Pacific region after its successful joint venture bid for Australia's Melbourne airport for A$1.31 billion (about £617 million).

The Australian Government confirmed yesterday that the BAA-led consortium, known as Australia Pacific Airports, had been awarded a 50-year lease to run Melbourne's Tullamarine airport as part of the first tranche of its airport privatisation programme.

Andrew Jurenko, the consortium's chief executive said: "Australia Pacific Airports is focused on becoming the leading airport operator in the Asia-Pacific. The purchase of Tullamarine provides the perfect platform to launch our airport business in the region. We are already in negotiations in Bali and looking at other acquisitions in the region."

Under the deal Australia Pacific Airports, which also includes AMP and Axiom, the Australian fund managers, has agreed to reduce aeronautical charges at Melbourne by at least 18.5 per cent over the next five years.

The Australian Government also announced the sale of Brisbane airport to a consortium headed by Amsterdam's Schiphol airport for A$1.39 billion and Perth airport to a consortium led by Airport Group Holdings for A$643 million. Two other British-led groups, headed by Manchester airport and National Express, had hoped to secure one of the airports, but failed to make it past the shortlist.

Prices paid for the three airports far exceeded the market's initial expectations of just A$2 billion for the sale of all 23 airports in Australia. The Australian Government plans to sell the remaining airports in batches over the next year.

ACCOUNTANCY

When there's no smoking gun

Rik Workman looks at how fraud leaves only a lengthy paper trail

Fraud is a crime unlike any other. There is usually no witness who "saw" what happened, no smoking gun, no getaway car — just mountains of paperwork and endless lists of bank account transactions to sift through.

These days, money is diverted, moved or hidden on the signing of a document and the press of a computer key. For each transaction, there is a mass of paper generated to evidence it. Any corrupt individual with a desktop PC can manufacture credible documentary evidence. If that individual can then persuade colleagues to join him, there is a risk of serious fraud. If they can get customers to join the scam, fraud is almost unstoppable.

Abbas Gokal, the BCCI fraudster who is due to be sentenced today, was such an individual. As chairman of the Gulf shipping group, he was the key figure in a deep-rooted and well-camouflaged conspiracy with BCCI to steal money from the bank's depositors and to con Price Waterhouse, its auditors. He was the largest borrower from BCCI and, together with the bank, deceived PW in a systematic manner.

Gokal relied upon a raft of his senior managers to lend credence to his deceptions and was prepared to mislead a number of more junior employees as to the purposes for which their signatures on documents were required. BCCI itself had its own "factory" dedicated solely to the production of false documents. A case perhaps of job creation at its most extreme! In the latter days of fraud, staff were physically collapsing under the strain of having to create so much paper and juggle millions of dollars in fictitious transactions. Fraud can seriously damage your health.

Together Gokal and BCCI moved money in circles around the world, from bank account to bank account, all the time seeking to convince the world that both BCCI and Gulf were profitable and solid.

My colleagues and I discovered that money arriving in many of these Gulf accounts originated from other bogus Gulf accounts, and our task was to prove this. This demanded banking and corporate documentation from many different banks in a number of international jurisdictions. The loss or destruction of documents, or the inability to acquire them from certain difficult territories can frustrate the tracing of the money and render the evidential value of that particular line of investigation worthless.

Many of Mr Gokal's private bank accounts were held in Switzerland. That country's well-publicised bank secrecy laws may have encouraged the belief that such sources can prove impenetrable to even the most determined fraud investigator. But our experience was quite the reverse: we had excellent co-operation from the authorities there.

Rik Workman says the BCCI case offers lessons

We benefited, in particular, from the Swiss legal obligation for banks to keep their detailed records on individual transactions for a period of ten years. This is in stark contrast to the situation in Britain. Although money laundering regulations now require supporting records to be kept for five years, our case preceded the introduction of these, and we found that many of the supporting details of the transactions on those statements that we required had been destroyed.

Guidance notes that explain the relevant regulations are not mandatory for authorised banks and their retention policies on original documents appear to be determined largely by commercial considerations, such as the costs of storage and microfilming.

In many other SFO inquiries focused in the UK, these policies can prove to be formidable obstacles to effective fraud investigation. Perhaps the lesson of a major fraud like BCCI is that the retention law should be tougher: many frauds extend back further than five years, particularly when investigations are protracted.

The Gokal case also underlines the fact that large financial fraud ignores international boundaries. With money moving around the world's financial centres with great ease and speed, the need for co-operation and co-ordinated action by the world's authorities has never been greater.

Unfortunately, there are nations such as the Bahamas and Seychelles, that continue to obstruct assistance to others in tracing assets, retrieving documents and records for investigative use, and so allow fraudsters to evade prosecution and to continue to profit from their criminal actions.

The need for co-operation between international authorities has led to the establishment of a Mutual Legal Assistance Division at the SFO. The aim is to show other countries that the UK will assist them in their efforts to seek information and documents from entities based in this country. There will, however, always be nations where the establishment of such an office would simply be bad for business.

Rik Workman is a litigation support manager with Neville Russell

Andersens acquires international accent

THE success of Andersen Worldwide is little short of phenomenal. In 1993, when Jim Wadia was appointed managing partner at Arthur Andersen in the UK, it posted global revenues of $6 billion. Now, with Wadia on the threshold of running the worldwide organisation, it has managed almost $6 billion of revenue just in the six months to the end of February.

It is hard for people outside the organisation to grasp the scale of what is going on. It is not that Andersen is secretive. It is more that it is a determined organisation that sticks close to the business culture of its US roots in Chicago. And that culture says it is dynamic but self-contained. As Wadia once said of his partners: "You couldn't find a more individualistic bunch and they have a freedom to express themselves within a culture that is second nature to them. It becomes an instinct."

So it was that last week a high proportion of Andersen Worldwide's 2,700 partners were in Paris to decide on the future. The issues were simple. Larry Weinbach, Andersen Worldwide's chief executive, is standing down at the end of July. So there was a vacancy at the very top to be sorted out. And then there was the organisation itself. Since 1989 Andersen Worldwide has consisted of two separate units: Arthur Andersen, the original accounting and business organisation, and Andersen Consulting. And the strains and stresses that led to the separation in 1989 are tougher these days. Arthur Andersen has more partners and more votes than Andersen Consulting. But Andersen Consulting is growing fastest and a year ago finally overtook its parent company. And the growth differential continues. In the six months to February Andersen Consulting's revenue grew 25 per cent. Arthur Andersen's grew 12 per cent. Also Arthur Andersen, once simply an accounting firm, is now into an ever-widening range of professional services and in some areas treads heavily on Andersen Consulting's turf. George Shaheen, the head of Consulting, complains about this in good homespun American fashion. "It's difficult for two brothers to date the same gal," is how he once summed it up.

So Paris was the culmination of a long and much fought-over campaign to find a structural way forward. Plans for splitting the organisation into further separate business units had been bandied about over the months before. But in Paris the instinct of culture first, organisation second, held sway. The proposal to hold everything together drew 93 per cent support from partners. When they see consensus, partners tend to close ranks. But what that doesn't take away is the tensions. So the focus switched to the question of who should lead the firm when Weinbach steps down.

The processes within a partnership differ to those of the blunt and public world of companies. In Andersen's case partners elect a nomination committee with equal representation from the two organisations. It takes soundings and recommends a slate of partners. The board considers these and recommends one name to the partnership. A two-thirds vote is required to ratify the new supremo.

But in Paris things turned out rather differently. It was known that Shaheen, the head of Andersen Consulting, was on the slate. But so was Jim Wadia, Arthur Andersen's UK managing partner. Given that the partners had electronic voting gizmos, an "informal" vote on the two men's agendas was taken. Shaheen's platform drew support at 70 per cent, Wadia's a lesser 60 per cent. The board promptly put Wadia forward as the chosen son. Rumours abounded that Shaheen would resign. The rumours were swiftly denied. The majority could support either man "and that is what's important", said a spokesman. But the choice of Wadia is both an upset and farsighted. He will be the first non-American to run Andersens. But he is the man they need. His roots are unconventional. He is a Parsee, born in Bombay, educated in Geneva, married to a Frenchwoman, international and calm. He qualified first as a barrister, then moved to the small firm of Chalmers Impey to qualify as an accountant, and then moved to Andersens as a tax expert.

His style is simple and uncluttered. He talks to people, gets their views, takes a decision and gets on to the next issue. He made his name in the tax practice through clear analysis. On one occasion he noticed that a disproportionate number of multinational companies were operating out of Sweden, but none of the big accounting firms had a specialist partner on site to handle the work. He appointed one. Andersens cleaned up. The ballot papers go out shortly. In August, Wadia will be in command. But in reality it is the Andersen culture that will win again and keep pulling in revenues. The difference is that it will now have a more international accent.

[redacted]

Robert Bruce

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Thistle sting

SCOTTISH football supporters are not supposed to spread sweetness and light. But a bizarre press notice this week suggests otherwise. It comes from Sir David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, and Ron Paterson, his arch-critic from Ernst & Young. Tweedie once described Paterson's attack on the ASB's statement of principles as having "the vision of a mole and the eloquence of a whoopee cushion". But the likelihood of Falkirk finishing the season one place ahead of Partick Thistle in the Scottish League has changed everything. Tweedie supports Falkirk, Paterson Thistle. Traditionally a bottle of whisky is bet on final positions. "The scales have fallen from my eyes," says Paterson. "I acknowledge that Falkirk deserve to be ranked with the all-time greats, such as Real Madrid, Juventus and Maryhill Juniors."

Wrong target

JOHN ANDREWES is an esteemed tax partner at Coopers & Lybrand. He will shortly take over as the president of the Chartered Institute of Taxation. So it is all the stranger that the firm of Kingston Smith should send him a mailshot on tax. The personal letter, addressed to him at the institute, includes the helpful statement: "I enclose a leaflet which will assist in deciding if self-assessment will affect you." Time to cleanse that mailing list.

Going rates

THIS year's annual accounts of the English ICA, published today, show the pay of Andrew Colquhoun, chief executive, for the first time. Anthea Rose, chief executive of the certified accountants, received brickbats from members over her £108,000 pay, revealed last year. Now she should argue about catching up. Colquhoun takes home £124,000.

Robert Bruce

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	798.80	867.30	+ 5.30	2.22
General Inc	628.70	668.60	+ 4.40	2.22
UK Growth Acc	528.00	558.80	+ 3.70	2.28
UK Growth Inc	338.30	357.80	+ 2.30	2.28
Higher Inc Acc	550.80	580.70	+ 3.80	3.77
Higher Inc Inc	488.30	518.50	+ 2.80	3.76
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	136.20	144.50	+ 2.00	6.74
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 9500				
H&P UK Growth	101.70	108.10	+ 0.60	2.22
Equity Income	142.40	151.40	+ 0.90	3.87
Extra Income	278.30	293.90	+ 2.10	6.17
Smaller Cos	110.90	117.90†	+ 0.50	1.50
International	121.30	128.90†	...	1.38
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2502.00	2603.00		...
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5888				
Rectil Property #	100.30	106.70	...	5.52
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	98.74	105.83	+ 0.31	1.97
Income Builder Inc	88.31	93.95	+ 0.52	3.73
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	80.24	83.81	- 0.44	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 238				
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 888 000				
Balanced	76.53	79.71	+ 0.45	3.86
Capital	82.54	86.80	+ 0.54	2.28
High Income	53.71	55.94	+ 0.33	5.61
Top 50	64.75	67.44	+ 0.85	2.39
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	210.38	219.13†	+ 1.38	4.39
Long Gilt	48.41	48.32†	+ 0.73	5.82
Monthly Inc Plus	52.14	54.32	+ 0.12	8.25
Preference Share	48.50	50.83†	- 0.06	7.70
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	152.28	158.64†	+ 0.70	5.38
Managed Fund	81.20	84.59†	+ 0.11	2.82
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	55.04	57.34†	- 2.68	1.66
-do- Accum	85.82	89.57†	- 2.47	1.66
UK & General	110.77	115.40†	+ 0.89	2.81
-do- Accum	146.66	152.90†	+ 0.92	2.81
UK Growth	219.28	228.44†	+ 1.37	1.23
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	235.65	245.49†	- 0.18	0.59
Far Eastern Gth	129.55	134.95†	- 0.81	0.02
Global Bond	72.81	75.84†	- 0.87	6.53
Japan Growth	100.28	104.47†	- 0.51	...
North Amer Gth	270.83	281.94†	- 1.75	...
Oriental Growth	84.29	87.81†	+ 0.12	0.26
Worldwide Growth	77.32	80.55†	- 0.08	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.85	91.85†	+ 0.01	5.58

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	248.40	268.50†	+ 0.80	...
Income & Growth	251.60	267.70	+ 2.20	4.08
-do- Accum	406.50	432.40	+ 3.50	4.08
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	70.30	74.80	- 0.91	0.84
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 108/7				
GA Cash	48.30	50.84†	+ 0.01	4.56
Growth Portfolio	97.47	103.70	- 0.70	...
Income Portfolio	78.09	82.79†	- 0.01	2.63
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	239.40	256.80	- 0.70	0.50
Dividend	108.80	116.20	+ 0.80	4.88
Intl Gth & Inc	272.50	291.40	- 0.90	1.42
UK & Gen	55.78	59.66	+ 0.43	1.20
Fund of Funds	78.33	84.84†	+ 0.62	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 0431				
American Smlr Cos	207.80	222.30	- 4.20	0.15
European Gth	307.40	383.40	+ 0.70	0.55

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	167.69	177.76†	+ 2.41	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	223.09	237.67†	+ 0.59	..
North American	366.09	377.53	- 1.65	...
American Smaller	178.32	187.99†	- 0.17	..
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	173.80	183.00	+ 1.10	4.95
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	138.09	144.60†	+ 1.51	1.67
Capital	221.76	232.21	+ 1.49	1.43
Dollar	555.19	581.28	- 6.30	
Enterprise Gth	458.09	477.58	+ 1.61	0.76
Europa	308.41	322.94	- 1.63	0.06
Far East	303.84	317.32	- 3.16	0.46
Financial	212.54	212.12†	+ 17.81	7.49
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.35	28.44†	+ 0.77	6.70
High Yield #	124.18	130.04	+ 1.36	4.56
Income & Growth #	181.61	190.17†	+ 2.35	3.42
International	308.14	322.66	- 0.36	0.35
Japanese Growth	173.59	181.77	+ 2.82	
Japan Tech	79.94	83.70	+ 1.57	
Natl Resources	77.65	81.51†	- 0.61	0.30
Portfolio	89.80	94.03†	+ 0.49	1.34
Special Sits	235.54	247.69	- 1.22	0.07
UK Emerging Cos	138.21	145.77	+ 0.38	0.99
US Smaller Cos	153.86	161.11	- 0.90	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisory 0800 180 180 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	716.00	763.10	+ 4.20	4.38
UK Growth	792.40	840.30†	+ 5.20	1.47
High Income #	127.80	136.40†	+ 1.30	5.82
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	702.60	741.50†	- 3.70	0.28
European Gwth	167.30	177.80	+ 0.10	0.21
Japan Gwth	242.10	257.30	- 0.30	
Japan Smlr Cos	25.81	27.55	+ 0.15	..
Asian	81.70	85.90	+ 0.37	..
Sing & Malay Gwth	85.83	91.60†	+ 0.86	..
Hong Kong Gwth	191.60	204.30	+ 0.10	0.85
Global Bond	20.86	22.00	+ 0.03	4.97
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	190.50	191.50	+ 1.10	2.87
Total Index	136.30	136.90	+ 0.10	2.06
THE FOOTSIE FUND	75.99	76.37	+ 0.57	2.27
Index Funds-International				
American Index	334.50	336.20	- 0.70	0.89
Eurotrack 100	220.10	221.20	+ 0.80	1.33
Japan Index	63.46	63.80	- 0.12	0.10
Tiger Index	178.00	182.20	- 0.60	0.08
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	55.82	59.30	+ 0.23	1.15
General Funds				
Managed Dist	95.42	99.88†	+ 0.74	1.03
Managed	98.61	103.28†	+ 0.79	1.03
August Child Fnd	119.60	124.70†	+ 0.90	1.86
UK Growth	79.31	82.83†	+ 0.38	1.58
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	97.41	101.70	+ 0.60	5.31
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.77	28.68†	+ 0.41	7.36
UK Inc & Gwth	54.00	56.40†	+ 0.40	2.80
UK Income #	416.50	435.60†	+ 2.20	4.21
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	67.84	69.40	- 0.28	..
Amer Smlr Cos	157.90	164.90	- 0.40	..
-do- Accum	159.50	166.60	- 0.40	..
Europe Gth	262.10	273.70	+ 1.40	..
-do- Accum	271.50	283.50	+ 1.40	..
Euro Smaller Cos	49.21	51.23	+ 0.28	..
French Growth	165.50	169.50	+ 0.10	0.18
-do- Accum	114.20	118.60	+ 0.10	0.18
H Kong & China	128.50	133.90	- 0.10	0.61
Intl Growth	73.32	76.36	+ 0.17	0.36
-do- Accum	74.71	77.80	+ 0.18	0.36
Japan Gth	25.20	26.26	- 0.13	..
-do- Accum	25.20	26.26	- 0.13	..
Japan Smaller Cos	28.24	29.48	+ 0.14	..
Glob Emg Mkts	102.30	106.80	+ 0.30	..
-do- Accum	103.06	107.60	+ 0.30	0.11
SE Asia	340.60	364.10	+ 2.58	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	88.47	94.12	- 0.80	
Master Trust	73.16	77.83	+ 0.44	1.27
-do- Accum	84.47	89.87	+ 0.51	1.27
Millennium Acc	104.39	113.90		1.16
N American Gro	274.20	291.80	- 3.40	
-do- Accum	317.40	337.70	- 3.90	
Nth Sm Co Rec	182.50	194.20	- 0.80	
-do- Accum	186.30	198.30	- 0.90	
Pacific Basin	247.80	263.70	- 1.80	0.36
-do- Accum	264.20	281.10	- 1.90	0.36
Safety First Acc	102.30	107.40	+ 1.30	1.96
Do until 12/1/98 ‡	90.25			
Small Cos Rec	554.20	583.40†	+ 1.70	1.77
-do- Accum	771.50	812.20	+ 2.30	1.77
UK Eq Gth	184.90	196.80	+ 2.10	2.23
UK Eq Inc #	144.40	153.70†	+ 1.80	3.89
UK Growth	119.00	126.60	+ 1.20	1.80
-do- Accum	150.40	160.10	+ 1.50	1.80
Worldwide Gth	374.00	397.90	- 1.90	0.28
-do- Accum	553.30	588.60	- 2.90	0.28
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	100.37	107.38	- 1.13	0.60
General	119.54	128.28†	+ 1.38	2.70
Income	81.36	87.29	+ 0.87	4.83
International	77.76	83.43	- 0.52	0.50
Japan	49.14	52.69	- 0.72	
Tst of Inv Trusts	81.68	87.63†	+ 0.27	6.90
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	567.70	599.40	- 2.20	0.33
-do- Accum	711.30	751.10	- 2.80	0.33
Asian Recovery	860.40	858.40†	- 1.00	0.02
-do- Accum	763.70	807.50†	- 1.30	0.02
Amer Smlr Cos	156.40	165.40	- 1.40	
-do- Accum	159.80	169.00	- 1.40	
Australasian	221.40	234.10	- 1.50	1.99
-do- Accum	280.70	296.80	- 1.90	1.99
Capital	1043.30	1103.30	+ 0.60	2.77
-do- Accum	1258.60	1331.00	+ 0.70	2.77
Charifund	858.50	867.10†	+ 2.30	5.54
-do- Accum	4585.60	4641.00†	+ 12.30	5.54
Commodity	489.60	517.80	- 0.80	0.42
-do- Accum	724.00	765.70	- 1.20	0.42
Compound Gth	1205.80	1275.10†	+ 4.80	2.71
-do- Accum	1348.50	1426.00†	+ 5.20	2.71
Corporate Bond	27.19	27.29†	+ 0.02	6.50
Dividend	48.70	51.50		4.56
-do- Accum	220.90	233.70		4.56
Equity Income	352.80	373.20	- 0.60	5.37
-do- Accum	500.10	528.90	- 0.80	5.37
Euro & General	700.90	741.20	+ 1.60	0.63
-do- Accum	900.20	951.90	+ 2.00	0.63
Euro Dividend	88.70	93.80	+ 0.20	3.52
-do- Accum	113.80	120.40	+ 0.30	3.52
Euro Smlr Cos	56.70	60.00	+ 0.40	0.50
-do- Accum	56.70	60.00	+ 0.40	0.50
Extra Yield	511.80	541.30†	+ 1.70	4.94
-do- Accum	1756.90	1857.80†	+ 4.00	4.94
Fund of Inv Tsts	748.30	791.30	+ 1.30	1.47
-do- Accum	1445.60	1528.60	+ 2.50	1.47
General	76.60	81.00	+ 0.50	3.63
-do- Accum	229.90	243.10	+ 1.40	3.60
Gilt Income	65.36	65.46	+ 0.05	6.40
-do- Accum	203.77	204.08	+ 0.13	6.40
Gold	63.40	67.00	- 0.50	1.06
-do- Accum	76.10	80.40	- 0.70	1.06
High Income	36.50	38.60		4.59
-do- Accum	159.80	168.30	+ 0.40	4.53
Intl Growth	94.50	99.90		0.75
-do- Accum	167.40	177.00	- 0.10	0.75
International Inc	116.60	123.30†	- 0.10	4.29
-do- Accum	189.60	200.50†	- 0.10	4.29
Japan & Gen	32.10	33.90†		
-do- Accum	34.40	36.30†	- 0.10	.
Japan Smlr Cos	111.40	117.80†	+ 1.10	
-do- Accum	112.20	118.60†	+ 1.10	
Managed Gwth	28.30	29.90		1.56
Managed Income	32.10	33.70†		4.19
Midland	62.30	65.90†		3.17
-do- Accum	221.80	234.60†		3.17
Pension Ex	1169.40	1196.70†	+ 1.30	3.39
Recovery	50.40	53.30	+ 0.19	2.81
-do- Accum	87.40	92.60	+ 0.20	2.81
Second General	79.70	84.30	+ 0.20	3.78
-do- Accum	220.60	233.30	+ 0.60	3.78

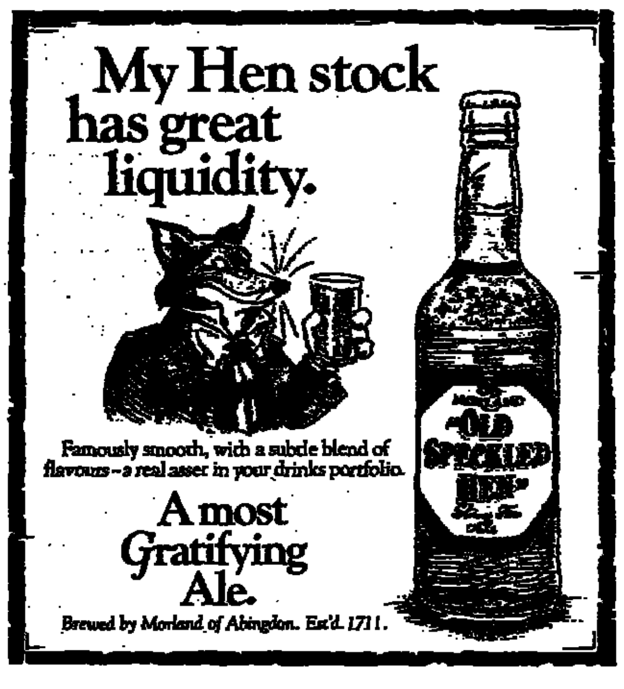
	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Monthly Income	104.10	109.00†	+ 1.00	4.04
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	154.40	164.30	+ 0.50	1.19
European Growth	152.50	161.70	+ 2.80	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	106.30	112.70	+ 0.30	4.92
Income	117.70	125.20	+ 0.70	2.54
Japan Growth	41.80	44.31	+ 1.08	..
Managed	91.62	97.53	- 0.29	1.80
Money Market	98.18	104.19	+ 0.10	3.86
North American	125.60	133.23	+ 5.00	0.34
Midland PSL/SS Unit Trust				
British	140.10	149.00	+ 0.80	1.19
European Growth	142.10	151.70	+ 2.60	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	99.57	105.80	+ 0.28	4.98
Income	115.20	122.60	+ 0.70	2.08
Japan Growth	41.66	44.16	+ 1.08	
Managed	87.55	93.14	- 0.27	1.78
Money Market	90.45	95.87	+ 0.02	3.83
North American	112.80	119.79	+ 4.30	0.41
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
Britain	138.80	147.70	+ 0.80	1.79
European Growth	140.80	148.40	+ 2.50	
Gilt & Fixed Int	89.73	96.17	+ 0.15	5.19
Income	112.00	119.20	+ 0.70	2.14
Japan Growth	42.56	45.15	+ 1.10	
Managed	90.81	96.61	+ 0.35	1.80
Money Market	82.12	87.05	+ 0.02	4.00
North American	126.60	134.20	+ 4.90	0.31
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	503.70	534.80	- 2.40	
European Gth Inc	616.40	657.50	+ 1.00	
-do- Accum	623.30	664.70	+ 1.00	..
Intl Gwth	247.40	262.10†		
UK Equity Inc	247.10	262.60†	+ 1.20	3.89
Do Accum	342.20	363.80†	+ 1.80	3.93
UK Growth Inc	141.80	151.80	+ 0.70	3.13
-do- Accum	146.20	155.60	+ 0.80	3.13
UK Ind Tools Inc	218.50	233.10	+ 1.40	2.90
-do- Accum	273.90	291.30	+ 1.80	2.90
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	321.10	339.70	- 1.00	0.99
Japan Tracker	59.32	62.54†	- 0.08	
Asian Tracker	222.60	240.50†	+ 0.20	0.28
Mngd Pfolio Inc	204.80	218.20	+ 1.00	1.62
Mngd Pfolio Acc	224.80	239.50	+ 1.10	1.62
Deposit Inc	100.29	100.29†	+ 0.01	5.82
Europe	272.10	291.37	- 0.70	
General	224.60	242.70†	+ 0.40	2.34
High Income	21.22	22.49†	+ 0.10	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
American	117.50	120.10†	+ 0.50	1.93
American Inc	125.70	128.00†	+ 0.40	1.93
American Passive	101.80	102.80†	+ 1.70	6.64
-do- Inc	76.37	77.14†	+ 1.27	6.64
Emerging Growth	75.21	77.25	- 0.62	
Equity Income #	117.10	120.10	- 1.30	3.73
European	94.25	95.93	- 0.45	0.13
Smaller Cos	103.20	107.80†		0.95
Wealth Equity	82.96	84.65	- 0.59	
Global Bond	41.01	41.45†	- 0.19	4.91
UK Growth	127.80	131.50†	+ 1.10	1.10
Pacific Growth	117.10	120.60	- 0.40	0.47
Japan Growth	88.65	90.08	- 0.91	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	167.84	178.55	+ 1.40	2.29
For N&P see Abbey National				
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
American Dist	137.80	145.10	- 0.60	0.23
European Dist	167.50	176.30†		0.78
Far East Dist	176.63	185.90	- 0.60	
Global Care Dist	93.11	98.01	- 0.06	0.48
Comms Dist	1166.80	1228.30	- 1.10	
-do- Accum	1516.70	1596.50	- 1.40	
UK Dist	479.80	505.10†	+ 3.30	1.64
-do- Accum	994.40	1046.70	+ 6.90	1.64
UK Extra Inc Dist	101.70	107.10	+ 0.50	3
Wwide Dist	123.90	130.40†	+ 0.10	0.09
Wwide Inc Dist	92.45	97.32†	+ 0.16	1.45

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	160.50	170.60	+ 0.30	1.59
-do- Accum	179.10	190.60	+ 0.30	1.59
Technology	693.90	738.20	- 8.60	
UK Blue Chip	101.00	107.50	+ 1.60	2.73
-do- Accum	119.00	126.60	+ 1.90	2.73
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406000 Client Enq: 0345 665500				
Managed Tst	48.41	50.17	+ 0.11	1.40
Cash Haven Inc	100.80	101.20†	+ 0.02	5.12
Cash Haven Acc	121.65	122.24	+ 0.01	5.12
Dist Trust Inc	112.65	116.74†	+ 0.12	5.36
Dist Trust Acc	130.70	135.44	+ 0.72	5.36
Global Growth	114.05	121.30	+ 0.23	1.02
Equity Inc	98.26	104.56	+ 0.22	4.07
Equity	985.10	1010.47†	+ 5.77	2.14
European	300.24	311.13	- 0.20	0.61
High Income	100.52	106.94†	+ 0.50	4.75
Intl Gth	236.44	250.47	- 0.29	0.79
Intl Sm Co	99.64	106.00†	- 0.18	0.45
Japanese	173.23	179.51	- 1.10	
Mgd Income Tst #	49.92	51.65	+ 0.57	7.80
Nth Amer	272.70	282.55	- 1.41	0.98
Pacific Mkts	114.71	118.87	+ 0.09	0.59
Premier Inc	49.07	51.07†	+ 0.25	6.44
Sm Cos	115.11	122.46†	+ 0.58	1.86
Spec Sits	142.07	151.14	+ 0.65	2.27
UK Growth	167.89	178.61	+ 1.06	2.14
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	93.17	97.97	+ 0.21	3.36
Investment Trust	126.89	133.43	+ 0.37	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	119.08	125.22	+ 0.10	1.37
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	379.90	402.90†	+ 5.00	2.51
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	767.87	813.89	- 7.64	
America (Acc)	899.72	953.82	- 8.96	
Amer Smllr Cos	65.64	69.83	- 0.86	
Asia	52.70	56.47	- 1.49	
European	454.87	483.04	- 4.78	0.02
Japan	194.18	206.58	- 2.29	
Jap Smllr Cos	30.78	32.32	- 0.17	
Major UK Cos	136.67	145.59	+ 1.53	1.60
Smllr UK Cos	449.87	488.33	+ 1.36	0.77
UK Equity Inc #	203.26	217.28†	+ 1.66	3.91
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	51.81	54.10	+ 0.43	
Cash	48.43	50.44		2.84
Emerging Mkts	53.62	55.99	- 0.11	
Europe	68.94	72.00	- 0.07	
Global Fixed Int #	49.22	51.40	- 0.25	5.31
Japan	35.90	37.49	+ 0.13	
North America	73.59	76.85	- 1.38	
UK	72.83	76.06	+ 0.54	0.53
UK Equity Inc #	68.49	71.52	+ 0.62	3.49
UK Fixed Int #	52.85	55.19	+ 0.59	7.10
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Grth Port	54.99	56.98	+ 0.32	
Pep Inc Port #	55.32	57.32	+ 0.41	2.90
BAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	92.66	97.52		
Gilt	109.88	115.65	+ 2.51	
Managed	128.23	134.97	- 0.89	
Portfolio	54.09	56.93	+ 0.39	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	137.50	145.00	- 1.90	0.29
Pacific Basin	76.71	82.35	- 0.28	0.31
High Inc Dist	179.50	191.60†	+ 2.20	3.70
Ryl Life Intl Cinry	66.78	70.56	+ 0.73	4.02
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	84.03	89.47	- 0.53	0.09
Ryl Life Intl Spec	76.40	80.21	- 0.42	..
UK Emerging Cos	147.00	158.90	+ 0.90	1.30
UK Index Trckg	221.90	235.70†	+ 2.80	3.38
European	192.20	206.00	- 1.60	0.16
Managed	196.50	212.10	+ 0.50	0.92

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	377.45	398.70	- 3.30	2.51
Europe Inc	532.50	562.60	- 3.50	0.52
Nth Amer Inc	252.80	272.70	- 3.90	
Global Inc	270.10	286.40	- 2.10	0.33
Global Acc	292.20	309.70	- 2.40	0.33
UK Spec Sits Inc	148.20	156.50	+ 0.80	1.66
South East Asia	211.70	223.70	- 0.20	0.19
Cash Trust Inc	101.90	101.90	+ 0.10	5.35
UK Smllr Cos Inc	132.70	139.70	+ 0.10	1.53
-do- Accum	139.92	147.82		1.53
Intl Bond Inc	89.02	93.62	- 0.50	4.85
International Smr	85.79	90.65	+ 0.10	
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	178.10	188.50	- 1.60	0.34
Nth American	155.60	163.80	- 1.30	
Intl Bond & Conv	119.90	126.70†	+ 1.50	6.46
Pooled Pension (B)	258.40	277.80†	+ 2.00	1.95
Smaller Cos	126.60	133.30†	- 0.50	0.82
UK General #	185.00	194.70†	+ 1.90	2.19
Far Eastern	88.29	92.93	- 0.58	0.06
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
Continental	100.00	105.50	- 1.00	0.91
Global Gwth	84.94	89.97	- 0.45	1.15
Inv Tst Port	61.34	65.25	+ 0.35	2.36
Managed	114.25	114.95		1.55
Pref Inc #	109.30	116.23†	- 0.50	5.84
Smaller Cos	299.90	319.00	+ 0.50	0.85
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	107.74		+ 0.17	4.58
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.54		+ 0.01	5.27
Corporate Inc ‡	101.71		+ 0.19	5.27
Tax Free ‡	115.59		+ 0.43	
Asian ‡	78.99		- 0.13	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	144.75		- 0.62	
European ‡	177.93		+ 0.34	
Global Bond ‡	87.73		+ 1.36	7.07
Samurai ‡	50.98		+ 0.02	
UK Growth ‡	118.04		+ 0.27	1.62
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	107.68		- 0.13	2.97
Investment Trust ‡	118.13		...	2.29
The Football Fd ‡	94.61		+ 0.27	.
Reserve Roll Up ‡	98.14		...	
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	429.90	454.80	+ 23.10	
Capital	160.70	169.50	+ 1.90	1.27
Cash	100.55	100.55	+ 0.05	5.46
European	179.00	189.20	+ 0.60	0.42
Far Eastern	159.40	168.70	+ 1.30	
Growth	185.10	196.90	+ 2.40	1.21
Income #	150.00	158.70	+ 1.20	4.71
Magnum	168.80	178.60	+ 2.00	1.25
Smllr Secs	628.90	665.40†	+ 1.70	0.14
Thoroughbred	196.10	207.50†	+ 2.30	1.16
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01202 435000				
Crystal Preference	59.00	63.70	+ 0.16	7.00
Ethical	90.74	96.51	+ 0.25	0.83
European Growth	89.71	95.13	+ 0.38	
Income	67.37	72.05	+ 0.20	3.21
Intl Growth	115.30	122.20†	- 0.30	0.86
Managed	100.20	106.70	- 0.30	0.24
UK Growth	86.37	92.37	+ 0.36	1.28
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	50.12	50.38	+ 0.30	1.08
Global Advtg Acc	54.79	55.07	+ 0.30	1.08
Income Advtg Inc	40.48	40.69	+ 0.40	3.57
Income Advtg Acc	47.86	48.10	+ 0.50	3.57
UK Equity Gth Acc	113.50	120.40	+ 0.80	1.54
Premier Inc Inc	51.32	53.12	+ 1.10	6.99
Premier Inc Acc	56.59	58.58	+ 1.20	6.99
Managed Acc	69.47	73.64	+ 0.20	1.30
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	45.64	48.38†	+ 0.50	4.33
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	61.86	65.58	+ 0.70	4.23
UK Smll Cos Acc	50.95	54.01	+ 0.10	0.34
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	89.35	94.94	+ 1.00	1.71
UK Equity Gen Inc	63.49	67.46†	+ 0.70	1.71

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Shire Gwth	211.30	225.40	+ 0.70	0.89
New Japan	78.05	83.45	+ 0.19	..
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	188.90	200.90	+ 2.10	.
Income #	246.44	262.17	+ 2.37	3.96
UK Growth	95.63	101.73	+ 1.10	1.82
Intl Growth	93.47	99.43	- 0.20	0.56
Ecology	111.02	118.10†	- 0.16	0.68
European	231.33	246.09	+ 0.02	0.28
Far Eastern	321.00	341.40	- 1.40	..
UK Special Sits	60.22	64.23†	+ 0.50	0.37
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.20	61.01†	- 0.05	.
High Income #	55.87	59.36†	+ 0.21	4.72

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	113.74	120.99†	+ 0.32	0.47
Intl Bond	61.98	65.11†	- 0.11	4.99
Intl Equity Growth	90.79	96.47†	+ 0.02	0.61
N Amer Growth	152.88	162.40	- 1.90	0.87
Special Sits Growth	31.28	33.27	+ 0.27	2.06
UK Growth	515.68	548.59†	+ 5.98	2.52
-do- Accum	719.36	765.27	+ 6.35	2.52
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1486.00	1507.70†	..	2.80
Income #	1088.50	1105.10	.	4.50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Famously smooth, with a subtle blend of flavours – a real asset in your drinks portfolio.

A most Gratifying Ale.

Brewed by Morland of Abingdon. Est'd. 1711.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	104.80	108.40	+ 2.00	6.72
Euro Pdv Inc	113.30	120.50	+ 0.60	2.75
-do- Accum	113.30	120.50	+ 0.60	2.75
Gilt Yield	122.90	129.50	- 0.10	6.24
Global Income	242.00	257.40†	+ 0.60	3.84
High Yield	180.70	192.20†	+ 1.30	4.85
-do- Accum	609.10	648.00†	+ 4.20	4.85
Money Market	99.72	99.72†	+ 0.01	5.30
Smlr Cos Div	66.76	71.02†	+ 0.12	3.84
Tompkinson Co Ex Acc	10.60	10.85	+ 0.06	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	161.30	171.60	- 1.50	...
Asian Growth	307.20	326.80	+ 0.80	..
-do- Accum	361.00	384.00	+ 0.90	...

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	181.80	185.50†	.	4.13
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Inc #	97.92	100.90†	+ 0.80	6.50
M & S Inv Pfolio	193.30	199.30	+ 0.60	2.33
-do- Accum	231.70	238.80	+ 0.70	2.33
UK Sel Pfolio	176.00	181.40	+ 1.80	2.32
-do- Accum	214.20	220.90	+ 1.30	2.32
UK 100 Cos	135.00	135.00	+ 1.10	2.39
-do- Accum	138.40	138.40	+ 1.10	2.39
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	72.74	77.38	+ 1.63	3.41
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Australasian Gold	26.44	27.83	- 0.32	
Pacific Basin	43.36	45.64†	+ 0.21	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.9160	0.9540	+ 0.0101	
Penny Share	48.14	50.67	- 0.38	
Japan Smlr Cos	34.32	36.13†	- 0.21	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Challenge	90.50	93.41	- 0.24	1.80
Short Dtd Gilt	127.80	128.30‡		
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7970	0.8054	+ 0.01	..
Gilt Income	52.10	52.92	+ 0.24	6.20
Gilt Growth	80.97	82.23	+ 1.01	...
Sterling Bond	50.45	51.30	+ 0.59	6.60
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4900				
Intl Mgd	60.68	64.43	.	1.84
UK Stockmarket	114.30	121.30	.	2.31
Corporate Bd Inc	49.86	49.97	...	6.38
Do Accum	52.77	52.88	..	6.38

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend, ‡ Middle price, .. No significant data, # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

Equities at new high as gilts fade

TRADING PERIOD: *Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.*

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq	437	+ 9	6.7	13.2
626	535	Bulmer (HP)	535	- 2½	3.2	16.0
75½	57½	Burn Stewart†	59	- 1	7.2	14.7
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	915		1.7	24.9
539	435½	Grand Met	512½	- 4½	3.9	16.6
530	424	Guinness†	514	- 2	3.9	14.7
380	321½	Highland Distl†	324	+ 1½	3.2	15.2
336	257	Matthew Clark	277½	+ 1	10.8	13.2
109½	90½	Merrydown W	90½		6.4	12.2
1978½	1462½	SA Breweries	1818½		1.9	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4706¼	3671¼	ABN-AMRO	4316¾	- 18¾	2.6	18.1
867½	710	Abbey Ntl	848½	+ 2	3.8	15.0
598½	532½	Alliance & Lei	585½	+ 6½	3.5	14.4
455½	388½	Allied Irish	445½	- 1	4.0	
409½	363½	Aus New Z	396½	+ 2½	4.8	
7678¼	6753¾	Bank America	7268¾	- 31¼		
403	291½	Bank Scotland†	396	+ 3½	2.6	12.3
1236	978½	Barclays	1199	+ 7½	3.3	12.1
662	517½	Bk of Ireland	659½	+ 1½	3.2	14.9
7890¾	6006½	Citicorp	7140¾	+ 84¾		
1731¼	1268¾	Commerzbk	1693¾	+ 53¾	2.5	
862½	559¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	716¾	+ 3½	0.6	
3490¾	2789¾	Deutsche Bk	3394¾	- 21¾	1.9	
1031¼	759¾	Espirito Santo	1012½		3.3	
872½	594½	Fuji Bank Y	731¼	- 4	0.6	
1720½	1272½	HSBC	1704	- 2½	3.0	14.8
1651½	1241	HSBC HK	1637½	+ ½	3.1	14.2
606	463½	Irish Perm†	575		2.8	
582½	474	Lloyds TSB	578	+ 12	2.9	18.7
859½	669½	Nat Aust Bk	859½	+ 3½	4.8	11.6
844½	663½	Nat West	763½	+ 12½	4.7	11.5
632½	508	Ryl Bk Scot	585	- ½	4.2	12.5
960	681	Stand Chart†	947	+ 3	1.9	17.0
£164¼	£116¼	Wells Fargo	£163¾		1.9	
374¼	315½	Westpac	343¼	+ ½	4.6	

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	781½	Bass	830	+ 3½	3.8	16.4
68½	51½	Brit for the Brit▲	53½		4.1	14.7
205	170½	Burtonwood Brw	173½		4.1	15.6
156½	131½	City Centre Rest†	131½	- ½	2.4	21.8
744½	612½	Compass Gp	672½	- 3½	1.6	26.6
290½	250	Eldridge P 'A	280½		2.4	17.2
485	435	Fuller Sm A	465		2.5	15.5
586	497½	Greenalls Grp	506½	- 1	3.8	15.9
750	643	Greene King	673½	+ 1	3.0	16.6
237½	164½	Grosvenor Inns	202½	- 9	3.7	19.6
295	218½	Groupe Chez Gerr	257½	+ 8½	1.4	25.3
298½	273½	Hardy Hanson	284½		4.7	12.9
2950	2700	Holt J	2850		2.6	
78	63½	Inn Business	68½		2.9	
357	343	Mansfield	351		2.2	16.1
315½	252	Mission Thmp	281½	- ½	3.3	10.5
615	530	Morland	537½		3.0	14.2
257½	210	Old Eng Pub	257½	+ 7	0.7	
47½	32½	Paramount	35½			
830½	527½	PizzaExpress	659	+ 6½	0.5	43.0
437½	337½	Ransdens (H)	387½		1.6	36.6
378½	284	Regent Inns	325	+ 4½	1.0	31.1
700½	630½	Scot & New	689½	- 4	3.6	20.9
289	248½	Vaux Group	268½		4.9	12.8
1190	1105	Wetherspoon JD†	1170	+ 5	1.0	26.1
819	738½	Whitbread	796½	+ 6½	3.8	16.0
706½	627½	Wolvrhmptn D	660	+ ½	3.2	14.5

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
465½	367½	Electrocomponents	399½		2.2	24.2
226½	130½	Eurodis Elec	140		4.4	20.0
97½	76½	European Mtr	89½		7.4	9.1
283	220	Evans Halshaw†	234		8.8	
53½	40½	Fife Indmar†	42½		9.7	8.5
397½	322½	Freeport Grp	345		2.4	17.5
34½	26½	Gardner	28½		4.2	10.8
79½	57½	Glenchewton†	64		2.6	12.5
110	82½	Gowrings†	108½		3.5	24.2
15½	11	HR Owen	14½	...	5.6	13.3
103	82	Hamlett	96½		7.9	8.9
267½	238½	Harris (Philip)	242½		4.5	14.8
320½	284½	Headlam	313½		2.3	
155	145	Holders Techl	147½		5.5	13.5
240½	209	ISA Intl	234		1.5	18.9
299	240½	Inchcape†	298	+ 2½	4.4	18.2
72	49½	Jacks (Wm)	62½		4.8	...
246½	214½	Jardi-Flt	241½	..	2.9	17.3
367	318½	Lex Service	351½		6.7	11.6
122	102	Lookers	104½		9.6	7.0
9	5½	Macklhesen	8½	- ½	1.2	12.6
41½	29½	Mintonwest	30½	+ ½	2.0	
472	219	Norbain	222	- 1½	4.5	6.2
166½	131½	Northamber	157½	- 1½	1.1	9.4
352½	305½	Parkco▼	330½	+ 9½	3.0	17.3
404½	342½	Pendragon	362½		3.4	16.7
225½	190½	Perry Gp	203½	- ½	5.7	9.4
751	455	Premier Farnell†	467½	- 2	3.2	17.3
152½	124½	Quicks Group†	134	+ ½	6.5	9.1
348	307½	REA	325		1.6	39.6
2½	2	Reece	2			23.3
38	18½	Ronson	19½	- ½	9.6	6.7
4	3½	Russ Gp	3½			
109½	78½	Rybard	95		5.3	17.8
38	25½	SEP Intl	27½		8.0	7.3
92½	54	Saltire	57		2.7	
415½	377½	Thorn Products	395½		3.5	10.2
298	228	UMECO	298		2.0	21.4
75	59	United Oseas Gp	70	+ 1½	..	15.2
35½	29½	Vardy (Reg)	32½		2.6	14.4
660	498½	WF Elect	635	...	2.6	21.0
41	31½	Wilshaw	32		3.3	9.5
172½	142½	Wyko	142½	- 1	2.3	16.6
154½	119½	Young (H)	150½	..	3.5	13.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
420	327½	Antofagasta	390		1.7	
328	283	Ascot Hldgs	285½		2.3	
876	790	Broken Hill	856½	+ 1	2.8	19.7
289	237½	BTR†	267½	+ ½	4.5	11.5
568	462	BAT†	530	- 4	6.1	11.3
195½	128	Bibby (J)	188½		5.0	11.0
60½	53½	Brierley Inv	56	- ½	8.5	9.2
856½	715	Charter†	848	- 3	4.3	12.0
266	210	Cookson†	228½	- 4½	4.7	14.3
229½	199½	Cosalt	211½		6.2	9.0
315½	256½	DCC	312½		2.8	22.4
141	115½	Grampian Hdg	138½	+ 3½	5.7	..
140½	116	Harrison Crsfld	116	- 5	10.2	10.5
508½	423½	Hutch Whamp	481½	- 1½	2.1	20.0
438½	375	Imperial Tobacco	406½		6.2	8.1
397½	331	Jardine Mathr	346½	+ 6	4.4	
158½	123	Lonrho	135½	- 1	4.4	12.3
175½	155½	McLeod Russel	157½	- 1	5.3	12.8
446½	388½	Powell Duffryn	439½	+ 1	7.1	17.3
145	113½	Ropner	145		3.0	
190	153½	Staveley	169	- 1	6.8	12.1
602½	448½	Swire Pacific	490	+ ½	2.8	18.1
372½	327½	TT Group†	356½	- 1	2.7	15.7
296½	262½	Tomkins	275½	+ 2½	4.7	13.7
210	165	Unidare	165		11.0	
498	407½	Wardle Storeys†	498½	+ 5	5.6	16.3
387½	308½	Wassall	336	- 9	2.3	20.6

PHARMACEUTICALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
264½	192	Brit Biotech	247½	+ 7	...	..
1115	685	Cantab Pharms	982½			...
673	470	Celltech	602½	+ 19	...	
443½	312½	Chiroscience	337½	+ 10		
293½	177½	Cortecs	252½	+ 4		
1217½	885½	Glaxo Wellc	1191½	- 11	3.5	24.6
245	176½	ML Laboratories	203	+ 4½	..	53.1
330½	252	Medeva†	291	- 7½	2.1	...
403	238½	Peptide Thera	322	+ 1		
92	24½	Proteus Intl	58½	+ 1		...
737½	382½	Scotia	441½	+ 11½		
246	218	Shire Pharms	223½	+ 4½	...	
88½	64½	SkyePharma	76	- 1		
1011	768½	SmithKlineB†	1003	- 2	2.0	25.1
392	299½	Therp Anti Inc	356½	- 1		
707½	512½	Vanguard	680	+ 8		
435	310	Xenova	360			
1930	1585½	Zeneca	1908½	- 7	2.3	27.0

PRINTING & PAPER

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
142	126	AG Holdings	128	...	6.1	10.8
782	712½	API	725		1.9	23.1
65	47½	App Halo	60	- 1		
202	161	Arjo Wiggins†	181½	- 1	5.2	30.2
201	120	Aspen Comst	169		4.6	
23½	17½	Bath Press	21½	..	2.6	11.7
490½	417½	Bemrose†	417½	- 4	4.5	11.0
220½	169½	Blagden†	170		1.9	11.8
2771½	2178½	Bowater Inc	2743½	- 28½	..	
321½	282½	Bowater Intl†	283½	- 1	1.3	20.6
745	642	Br Polythene†	643½	...	3.5	13.7
24½	14½	Br Thornton	20½			
148	102	Britton Grp†	102	- 1	4.0	9.8
234	198½	Bunzl†	208½	- 2½	3.8	12.9
233½	180½	Capital Indst	181½		3.7	...
388½	333½	Chapper (James)	350½		1.4	13.1
673½	521	De La Rue	544	- 1	5.5	13.9
74½	74½	Delyn Group#	74½		3.4	14.8
257½	195½	Delphin Packt	250½	+ 4	3.5	18.4
75½	55½	Fairway Group	56½	- 2	8.8	13.1
236	193	Ferguson Intl	193	..	8.6	10.2
165½	135½	Filofax	138½		3.2	10.4
134	90½	Inveresk	90½	- 1	8.0	34.7
249½	200½	Jarvis Porter	213½	..	4.1	12.8
452	368	Low & Bonar	388	- 1	5.0	10.0
128½	110½	MY Holdings†	120		2.8	16.7
198½	172½	Macfarlane†	176½		2.9	15.9
167½	88½	Nano Gp	137½	- 1	5.6	10.2
575	405½	Photobition	560	+ 5	1.5	30.7
179½	164½	Pyes	167½		5.5	16.4
33	24½	Porter Chadbn	24½		1.3	8.9
371	286	REXAM†	305	+ 14	5.8	21.9
557½	482½	St Ives Grp†	510	- 7½	2.6	17.2

SUPPORT SERVICES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1720	1300	ADT	1710	- 10	...	
525	386	AEA Tech	495	+ 15	1.9	22.9
114	97	Alpha Airprt	105		6.2	
45½	34½	Alphameric	45	- 1½	..	17.6
387½	292½	Atkins WS	316	+ 3½	2.5	23.8
188½	152½	BBD Rest	154½	+ 1	6.1	7.5
457½	394½	BPP	442½		3.7	19.3
162½	95	BSM†	118½	- 1	8.0	8.9
699	416	BTG	630	+ 2½	0.8	
89½	60½	Brooks Service†	87½		5.0	13.3
510	449	Business Post	481½	+ 4	2.4	24.6
1262½	840	CMG†	1152½		0.7	42.1
250½	222½	CRT Grp†	232½	+ 2½	2.2	20.2
805	590	Card Gp	737½		1.4	68
275½	161½	Capita Group▼	231½	- 3½	0.9	49.1
9	6½	Chemex	6½		2.8	16.7
451½	308	Chubb Sec	443½	+ ½	2.4	21.6
206	172½	Corp Services†	185	+ 1	3.4	15.5
58½	44	Coutts Cnslg	46½		6.4	64.4
346	250½	DCS Gp	315½	+ 1	0.6	25.8
270½	232½	Davis Service†	262½		4.8	14.6
910	730	Delphi†	802½		0.9	24.3
335	290	Diagonal	329	+ 16½	..	42.8
252	170	Dudley Jenkins	218½		2.2	28.5
79½	49½	EW Fact†	51½		4.9	
100	64½	Et Data Prc	67½	- 3	4.1	10.2
602	479	FI Group	567½	+ 20	1.0	45.9
578½	515	Hays†	572	+ 4	1.9	23.8
313½	194½	Hogg Robinsn	210		5.4	8.7
837	530	JBA Hldgs†	810		0.8	
295	258	Johnson Clean	282½		5.2	11.8
114½	69	Kalamazoo	87½	+ 3	6.1	9.0
827	527½	Kewill Sys	627	+ 16	1.7	37.1
37½	25½	Laser-Scan	28½			46.5
278½	198½	Lavendon†	268½	+ 5	1.6	20.6
115½	105½	Leigh	113½	- ½	4.3	
1067½	885	Logica	881½	- 2½	1.2	38.9
115½	85½	Lynx Hldgs	102½		2.1	19.1
62	30½	MDIS	41½	- ½		
632	527½	MMT Group	572½	- 11½	1.9	24.8
104½	85	MR Group	91		4.8	16.1
492½	395½	Macro 4	401½		7.7	11.1
92½	47½	Menthmore Abbey	50½		1.5	
1467½	913½	Micro Focus	1465	+ 2½		
178½	146½	Microgen	175		5.8	11.6
1331½	1065	Misys	1295	+ 6	1.1	27.4

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
200½	135½	MFI	140	+ 2	4.1	13.6
510½	458½	Marks Spencer	504½	+ 1½	2.9	19.9
545	445	Menzies (John)	461		2.7	12.0
26½	22½	Merchant Retail	23			27.2
1425	1155	Moss Bros†	1335	+ 20	1.2	19.4
691	523½	Next	684	+ 13½	2.8	21.8
41½	29½	Oliver (G)	29½		...	..
536	467	Ottakar Intl	474½		3.3	14.6
74½	69½	Partridge Fine	70		5.5	13.6
40½	28½	QS Hldgs	38			
337½	298	Rossbys†	298½	..	3.3	16.2
95½	71½	Sears	79½	...	6.7	18.3
36½	30½	Signet Group	35			
484	423	Smith WH	475½	+ 3	4.1	
1110	927½	Sothebys	990		1.5	
305½	209½	Storehouse	289½	- ½	4.5	14.0
150	107	Stylo	117½		6.3	...
202½	175½	T & S Stores†	184		5.3	11.8
208½	154	Thorn	189½	- 2	9.8	12.1
203½	186½	Tie Rack	187½	- 3	2.3	
4	3	Upton & South	4	...	...	18.9
543½	481½	Vendome	520	- 1	2.6	19.3
26	16½	WEW Group	18		...	15.0
417½	132½	Wickes	179½			
128½	76½	Wld of Leather	128½		1.9	27.1
313½	232½	Wyevale	294½		2.6	21.2

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
64½	54½	Rodand Tst	58½		3.0	14.9
144	99½	SEC Group	136	+ ½	4.4	12.1
445	387	S & U	398½		6.3	
1782½	1500	Schroders	1650	+ 41½	1.5	18.0
1577½	1310	Schroders NV	1445	+ 30	1.7	15.7
580	525½	Secure Tst	547½	...	4.6	12.4
182½	127½	Singer & Fredl	143½	+ 1	4.1	12.4
46½	37½	Towry Law	38½		..	..
4	2½	Tso Hldgs	3	..	2.4	
109½	71	Unum	78½	..		
342½	310	Winterest	335	+ 5	4.8	15.8

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
47½	30	Simon Eng	47	+ 1½	...	..
227½	119½	Sir Hundred	142½		4.2	2.8
832½	742½	Smiths Indt	781½	- 2	2.7	19.0
737½	638½	Spirax-Sarco†	701	- 1½	2.6	18.5
303½	261½	Sterling Ind	262½	..	4.2	13.2
594½	515	TI†	542½		3.1	18.1
113½	101½	Tinsley (E)	108½		6.9	11.0
120½	102½	Transtec	107½	+ 1	2.8	
206½	170½	Triplex Lloyd	170½		5.1	9.6
167½	150½	Unicorn Intl	162½		4.9	9.8
77½	48½	Utd Inds	73½		4.2	20.8
273½	199½	Vickers	216½	- 4½	4.2	12.9

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
94	79	Edin Dragon	81½	- ½		
30	24	Edinburgh Incs	29½	+ ½		
391	343½	Edinburgh IT	381	+ 2½	3.3	33.0
125½	102½	Edin Japan	123½	- 1	...	...
502	420½	Electra Inv	470	+ 2½	2.2	44.0
267½	89½	English Ntl	210		0.2	
156½	144½	Eng & Scot	150½		2.5	39.1
408½	372	European Assd	381½		1.2	..
109½	90½	Fidlty Asian Val	97	- ½		
259½	216½	Fidlty Euro Valt	257½	- ½	0.2	
47½	36	Fidlty Jap Val	43½	- ½	0.3	

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
220½	163½	Murray S/C Cap	207½	+ 1		
73½	64½	Murray S/C Inc	65½		23.4	5.1
3750	3150	Murray S/C Uts	3700	..	4.0	
485½	419	Murray Small	443	- 1	1.4	65.5
402½	387	Murray Vent†	391	- 1	4.8	21.9
5½	5½	Newmarket	5½		..	..
416	353½	O'seas Inv Tst	413½	- 2	1.1	...
213	156½	O'seas Wts	210½	- ½	..	...
126	101½	Pacific Assets†	102	- ½	0.5	
108½	98	Perp Inc Gth	107	+ 1½	2.0	..
54½	41	Perpetual Jap	47½	- 1		

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
232½	213½	GDT Group	231½	- 1	3.2	16.2
232½	187½	GWR Gp	192½		1.7	33.4
387½	300½	Goodhouse Group	353½	...	2.2	17.6
34½	29½	Goodhead	31½		1.0	19.2
291½	243½	Grampian	281½	+ 9	3.3	..
372½	277½	HTV Group†	306½	- 4½	1.7	38.9
287½	232½	Haynes Pub	240	..	5.6	11.0
22½	17½	Highbury Hse	18		...	...
230	210	Hodder H'Bnet	213	+ 2½	3.8	18.1
395	243	Home Counsl	252½	...	2.7	52.9
387½	295	IBC†	365	..	3.2	13.2

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
99½	82½	J Fry Euro U	97½		5.7	15.6
162½	119	JF Fledg Jap	141½	- 1		
108½	92½	Jupiter Eq Inc†	97	+ ½	10.1	9.6
14½	3½	Jupiter Eq IncW	10	..		
86	76½	Jupiter Grd Cap	80	+ ½	12.2	10.2
36½	31	Jupiter Grd Pfd	35			
135½	120½	Jupiter Intl Gro	125½		3.9	
339½	293	Kleinwort Chr	336	+ 1	2.2	50.1
116½	98½	Klnwt E Mkt	112½	- ½		
170½	153½	Klnwt Eml	161	.	..	.

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
419	298½	London Clubs	390	+ 9	2.5	25.8
231	179½	Macdonald Htls	179½	- 1	2.8	19.5
733½	628	Man Utd†	639	- 22	1.1	29.2
91	68½	Mandarin Ortl†	71½	- 1½	5.4	
412½	347½	Millennm & Cop	373½	+ 1	1.6	15.8
263½	191½	Norbent†	252½	+ 4	2.6	22.5
188½	117½	Prism Leisure	161½	..	4.7	8.7
38	29½	Queensborough†	32	.	1.2	12.5
18½	12½	Queens Moat	15½			18.2
454½	409	Rank Grp	445	+ 5	4.8	35.4

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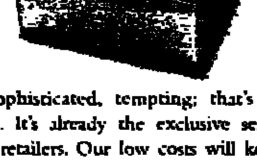

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1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
99	74	Klnwt H Inc	88	- 1	14.1	9.3
320½	251	Klnwt O'seas	303½	- 2	1.7	58.2
192½	171	Klnwt Smllr	183½		2.5	49.0
29½	26½	Korea—Euro	29½		0.4	
134½	98½	Latin American	130½			
957	802½	Law Debenture	956	+ 3½	3.2	29.3
115	103½	Ldn 2B Dup	105			
133	122½	Lloyds Sm Cap	130½			
25½	20½	Lloyds Sm Inv	21½		24.2	5.3
158½	145	Lloyds Sm Pkg	152		3.4	
163½	159½	Lon St Lawrence†	163½		4.8	26.3
325½	255	Lowland	311½	+ 1	4.6	23.9

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
45½	40½	Lyon Hotels IEt	42		5.6	
1475	1405	Savoy Hotel 'A'†	1417½		1.5	
260½	184½	Sinclair (Wm)	255½	+ ½	4.0	14.6
153½	47	Southampton	103½	- 2½	1.2	
110½	95½	Stakis	100		2.7	16.3
330	249½	Stanley Leisure	293½	+ 5	1.5	29.2
11	6	Tandem	7½			
345	346	Tempus	346	..	1.4	22.9
210	164	Thistle Hotels†	165½		2.8	16.2
142	101½	Tottenham Hot	110		0.8	18.8
115½	93½	Toy Options	110	+ 1½	4.0	8.9
280½	234½	UCI†	257½		3.8	13.0

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
45	30	Mercury Eur Wt	34			
97½	83½	Mercury World	93	- ½	1.5	78.0
12	5½	Mercury Wld Wts	6½	- ½		
652½	505	Monks Inv Tst	650	+ ½	1.8	50.6
187½	158½	Morg Grnf Inc	171½	+ ½	4.4	27.3
74	57½	Morg Wts	66½			
91	69	Morg Lat Amer	89½		0.5	
35½	21½	Morg Wts	33½			
132½	119½	Murray Eur	125		2.8	36.5
21½	14½	Murray Eur Wts	18			
95½	71	Murray Emg Eco	92½		0.6	
27½	14½	Murray Em Ec Wt	17½			
79½	65½	Murray Euro†	79½		0.7	
402½	354	Murray Income	387½	+ 4	4.5	28.7
463	401½	Murray Intl	442	+ ½	3.7	30.8
192	162½	Murray S/C QP	197½			

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
588½	515	BSkyB	601	+ 5½	1.3	38.1
170½	120½	CIA Grp	158½		1.9	34.3
590	516½	Capital Radio	539½	- ½	3.0	17.7
577½	489	Carlton Comms	527½	+ 10	2.6	16.8
812½	512½	Chrysalis	710		0.5	
92½	69	Clty of Lon	78½		6.3	10.5
140	97½	Conrad	130	+ 1	1.0	
1750	1431½	Daily Mail	1731½		1.4	28.4
1640½	1337½	Daily Mail 'A	1543½	- 6½	1.6	25.3
430	245	Dorling Kndr	288½	- 4½	1.9	24.3
831½	734	EMAP	762½	- 2½	1.9	26.3
1410	1085½	EMI	1239	- 21	2.8	30.4
1057½	913½	Elsevier	1032½	+ 10½	2.3	...
1450	1400	Emmstwy Pb	1435		4.0	20.0
49	37	Flextech	45½	+ 1½	1.1	12.5
803½	536	Flextech	640			

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
257½	215½	Ivory Sime	223	+ 4	4.8	15.2
228	197½	Jardine Strat▼	217		4.1	
144½	112½	Johnson Fry†	135		3.7	8.5
495	465	Leopold J	490		5.0	28.0
503½	439½	Liberty Intl	477½	- 5	4.2	28.6
457½	299½	Lon Forfaiting	423	- 1½	3.3	15.2
229½	207½	London Pacific	207½	- 2½	8.8	7.5
111½	94½	Lon Scot Bk	100½	...	3.7	17.5
200½	170½	Man ED & F	179	- ½	7.2	9.6
1467½	1097½	M & G	1325	+ 7½	3.4	22.4
1428½	1172½	MAM	1371½	+ 1½	3.6	23.0
178½	113½	Paragon	167	+ 8	1.8	7.8
2785	2280	Perpetual	2737½	+ 50	2.6	20.2
612½	500	Provident	593	- ½	3.5	20.2
335	303	Rathbone Bros†	315		4.6	12.7
60½	47½	Rea Brothers†	47½	..	2.6	19.0

BRITISH FUNDS

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
		Treas 7% 1997			6.98	6.24
		Treas 8¾% 1997			8.68	6.23
		Exch 15% 1997			14.43	6.32
		Exch 9¾% 1998			9.54	6.44
		Treas 7¼% 1998			7.20	6.50
		Treas 14% 1998-01			13.05	6.61
		Treas 15½% 1998			13.91	6.68
		Exch 12% 1998			11.15	6.72
		Treas 9½% 1999			9.11	6.75
		Exch 12¼% 1999			11.19	6.80
		Treas 10½% 1999			9.82	6.72
		Treas 6% 1999			6.09	6.79
		Conv 10¼% 1999			9.52	6.87
		Conv 9% 2000			8.55	6.89
		Treas 8% 2000			7.75	6.93
		Treas 13% 2000			11.11	6.95
		Treas 10% 2001			9.10	6.98
		Treas 7% 2001			7.00	6.96
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
		Treas 9¾% 2002			8.74	7.08
		Treas 8% 2003			7.65	7.05
		Treas 10% 2003			8.74	7.11
		Treas 11½% 2001-04			10.0	7.21
		Fund 3½% 1999-04			4.07	5.94
		Conv 9½% 2004			8.36	7.09
		Treas 6¾% 2004			6.87	7.05
		Treas 8½% 2005			7.92	7.11
		Conv 9½% 2005			8.32	7.15
		Treas 12½% 2003-05			9.73	7.12
		Treas 7½% 2006			7.31	7.12
		Treas 7¾% 2006			7.45	7.14
		Treas 8% 2002-06			7.76	7.25
		Treas 11¾% 2003-07			9.69	7.13
		Treas 8½% 2007			7.75	7.14
		Treas 7¼% 2007			7.17	7.10
		Treas 9% 2008			7.89	7.16
		Treas 8% 2009			7.54	7.10
LONGS (over 15 years)						
		Treas 6¼% 2010			6.81	7.21
		Conv 9% 2011			7.77	7.20
		Treas 9% 2012			7.73	7.21
		Treas 5½% 2008-12			6.38	6.95
		Treas 9% 2013			7.44	7.20
		Treas 7¾% 2012-15			7.39	7.22
		Treas 8% 2015			7.38	7.16
		Treas 8¾% 2017			7.52	7.20
		Tr 8% 2021			7.38	7.15
UNDATED						
		War Ln 3½%			7.26	
		Treas 2½%			7.35	
		Consols 4%			7.52	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
		Treas IL 4⅝% 1998				3.22
		Treas IL 2½% 2001			2.66	3.27
		Treas IL 2½% 2003			2.94	3.38
		Treas IL 4⅜% 2004			3.00	3.40
		Treas IL 2% 2006			3.15	3.45
		Treas IL 2½% 2009			3.24	3.48
		Treas IL 2½% 2011			3.29	3.51
		Treas IL 2½% 2013			3.34	3.53
		Treas IL 2½% 2016			3.37	3.55
		Treas IL 2½% 2020			3.45	3.60
		Treas IL 2½% 2024			3.46	3.58
		Treas IL 4⅛% 2030			3.46	3.50

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	84½	Abacus Recruit	102½	...	1.5	16.6
210½	170	Cafe Inns	175		1.7	13.5
209½	153½	County Edws	205½		1.0	19.0
262½	215	Dawson Hlgs	230	- 2½	2.2	17.7
51½	37	Freepages	41½	½		51.9
97½	88½	Megalomedia	92½			
65	33½	Memory Corp	38½	+ 1		
395	395	Prism Rail	395			
1265	945	Reneco Eqt	1055	+ 10	0.1	
783	619½	Southern Newsp	722	+ 6	3.2	23.4
72½	65½	Southern Vecs	72½		3.3	15.6
496	410	Surrey Fr Invst	495	+ 20	0.6	34.2
60½	33½	Trocadero	32			

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

■ MUSIC 1

From Tudor motets to Cleo Laine: the Proms range wider still and wider

■ MUSIC 2

Sir Colin Davis takes a magisterial approach to Brahms and Beethoven

THE TIMES ARTS

■ POP 1

A triumphant night for the Fugees as they expand their appeal to fill Wembley Arena

■ POP 2

. . . and Nanci Griffith gives a tour de force, in a bittersweet vein, at the Olympia in Dublin

MUSIC: A guide to the world's greatest music festival; plus a review of the London Symphony Orchestra in top form

Twenty cheers for the '97 Proms

More concerts, more premieres, more broadcasts . . . and Des Lynam hired to compère the introductory CD. The 103rd season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts will not be short of bulk or innovation. But what of its quality? RICHARD MORRISON identifies 20 superlatives in the 1997 season

Most solemn: The Proms traditionally open with something massive, choral and morally improving — notwithstanding a delicious deviation (in every sense) into one of Strauss's more bloodthirsty operas a year or two ago. This season, sublimity is restored. The First Night (Jul 18) sees hundreds of singers and players crammed into the Albert Hall for Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, conducted by Bernard Haitink.

Least solemn: Some 73 concerts later, the Last Night (Sept 13) lives up to its eclectic reputation, including Wagner (the Liebestod from *Tristan* sung by Anne Evans) and Gershwin (*Variations on I Got Rhythm*), to say nothing of silly hats, Union Jacks, and an Irish Reel by Britten.

Loudest: The jubilantly named Ensemble Bash will surely give a thumping good account of percussion music from many different traditions in a late-night Prom (Jul 23). But will it match the decibel count from Robert Wallace's bagpipes, featured in Edward McGuire's *Calgacus* (Aug 18)?

Newest: There are more than 30 premieres this year, from established figures such as Iannis Xenakis, Peter Maxwell Davies, Elliott Carter and Magnus Lindberg, as well as newish names like the American *enfant terrible* Michael Gordon. He was brought up "in the Nicaraguan jungle" and now writes pieces with titles such as *Yo, Shakespeare* and *Love Bead*. I just hope that all the new works are actually finished on time this year.

Oldest: Written five centuries ago, the *Magnificat Regale* by Robert Fayrfax is performed by the BBC Singers (Aug 15). Fayrfax was the composer selected by Henry VIII to accompany him to the Field of the Cloth of Gold, where his music was sung by combined French and English choirs. Perhaps some inspirational harmonies might improve the quality of present-day European summits.

Youngest: The number of youth orchestras at the Proms seems to increase each year. Cynics will point out that they are cheap. But let's not be cynical: such ensembles as the National Youth Orchestra (Aug 9), the (mainly East European) Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra (Aug 12), the National Youth Chamber Orchestra (Aug 24) and the European Union Youth Orchestra (Sept 9) are outstanding by any standards. The youngest *audience*, however, will undoubtedly be the thousands of children packing the Junior Prom on Sept 8 — and next Tuesday *The Times* will run a competition to give away 400 tickets for that.

Sleaziest: Meanwhile, the entertainment on Aug 3 is strictly for adults only. Kurt Weill's *Seven Deadly Sins* and *Mahagonny*, both scathing satires on decadence and degradation, will be staged — doubtless very saucily — by Mecklenburgh Opera. The bust of Sir Henry Wood will surely turn on its plinth.

Holiest: And after the sinners, a couple of saints. Honegger's wonderful "dramatic tableau", *Joan of Arc at the Stake*, is semi-staged (Jul 27) with the actress Fiona Shaw emoting the main role. I saw her do it at the Brighton Festival, and she generated more electricity than the average power station. Two days later (Jul 29), the Hallé Orchestra plays extracts from Debussy's preposterously camp but beautiful *Martyrdom of Saint Sebastian*.

Most authentic: John Eliot Gardiner's interpretation of Beethoven's *Choral Symphony* (Aug 10) with his grandly-named Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique won't be the first Prom performance of the Ninth on period instruments. But when Gardiner did it in Salisbury last year he sent the critics into spasms of ecstasy, so this should be a Prom to remember.

Most erotic: I don't suppose that the magnificent players of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra will remove anything more daring than their jackets, but they do conclude their Proms visit (Sept 2-3) with the Dance of the Seven Veils from Strauss's *Salome*. Other visiting orchestras include the Kirov (Aug 14), Budapest Festival (Aug 15), Dallas Symphony (Aug 24) and Leipzig Gewandhaus (Aug 27-28).

Most favoured composer: In their anniversary years Brahms, Schubert, Mendelssohn and Korngold all get reasonable deference. But only Britten has a whole weekend devoted to his music (Aug 16-17). It includes the Westminster Abbey Choir singing the lovely *Ceremony of Carols*.

Most relentlessly chirpy performers: I don't really mind the King's Singers skipping from Renaissance madrigals to Lennon and McCartney in one late-night Prom (Jul 31). I just wish they would cut out those silly grins.

Fishiest Prom: Extracts from Frank Zappa's *The Yellow Shark* will be performed in a Prom (Jul 20) that otherwise trawls through the shallows of American minimalism. Highbrow critics will scoff, but the Albert Hall will be packed.

Funniest: Well, humour is a subjective thing, but *The Gondoliers* is supposed to be comic (Aug 2), and if Gilbert and Sullivan isn't your thing there is always Rossini's farcical opera *Count Ory*, which Glyndebourne forces are semi-staging on Aug 25.

Earthiest: Folk music is a theme running through this season, but nowhere more strongly than in the late-night Prom on Aug 8, when the all-male Rustavi Choir from Georgia offers traditional fare. *Basso* doesn't come more *profundo* than in these great Caucasian choirs: once heard, never forgotten.

This year's Proms include (from left) Solti, Schubert, Britten, Fiona Shaw as St Joan, Haitink, Glennie and Davis

Rarest: Well, have *you* ever heard Brahms's "heroic cantata" *Rinaldo*? Don't miss it when the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra plays it on Sept 7; it might not reappear in our lifetimes.

Deadliest: It's a great year for Requiems: take your choice from Verdi (Sept 12), Brahms (Sept 10) or Britten (Aug 17).

Jazziest: Hard to believe it, but Cleo Laine and John Dankworth are 70 this year. Homage will be paid in a Prom (Aug 29) by the BBC Big Band and Concert Orchestra that includes Ellington and Gershwin classics as well as the premiere of a new Dankworth piece.

Most poignant: Composing his oratorio *Jephtha*, Handel had reached the words "How dark O Lord are Thy decrees, all hid from mortal sight" when his own sight failed. It was to be his last oratorio — and his finest, say some Handel devotees. Sir Charles Mackerras conducts a top-class cast (Sept 1).

Most virtuosic: Performing at the Proms — with that huge, standing audience packed in just a few feet away — must be the most terrifying assignment in classical music. But great performers rise to the occasion. Watch out for Evelyn Glennie, the amazing percussionist who premieres a new concerto by Jonathan Harvey (Jul 26), Maxim Vengerov, the young Russian superstar violinist who plays Shostakovich on Sept 10, and Evgeny Kissin, the astonishing 25-year-old pianist who gives the first full-length solo Proms recital in 103 years (Aug 10).

● *The BBC Proms 97 Guide (£3.99) out this week, has a priority booking form. Booking opens May 21; telephone booking (0171-589 8212) from June 16*

Discoveries in great company

CONCERT

LSO/Davis
Barbican

BEETHOVEN and Brahms dominated the London Symphony Orchestra's concert on Tuesday, prefaced by the premiere of Piers Hellawell's *Do Not Disturb*. Hellawell's piece is the latest product of the LSO's enterprising programme of commissions: the Finchley Children's Music Group also took part, and the project had been organised by the orchestra's educational "Discovery" department.

Do Not Disturb takes its title from words in *Ways Through Bracken* by the poet Tom Clark, two of whose poems are incorporated. The 15-minute score is neatly symmetrical: the poems are set into the second and fourth movements, around which the orchestra plays a prelude, interlude and postlude. The subject of the poetry, which evokes the lonelier corners of mountain terrain, is the need for solitude. Hellawell responds with dark, "northern" timbres, while restless percussion and scrunching strings supply the sounds of nature's murmuring.

It's all very eco-friendly, and listener-friendly too. But will it be widely performed? It does not help that Hellawell's orchestration is so thick, and it is odd that he should be inconsiderate of children's voices. Only confident singing from the FCMG and Colin Davis's careful conducting got the balance right, although very few words came across.

An unforgettable account of Beethoven's Violin Concerto followed, with Anne-Sophie Mutter the soloist. Her big, generous tone was coloured and shaded for intensity. She tore into both cadenzas with extraordinary virtuosity but also heartfelt passion that never contradicted the yearning, quieter poignancy of the rest of her playing.

Brahms's First Symphony is an almost Beethovenian work, and Davis stressed the brooding struggles of the opening movement. His tempos were majestic, even slow, but the performance led towards a finale of red-hot fervour. Both this and the Beethoven, familiar works, sounded newly inspiring: Davis is one of the great conductors of today, and the LSO is one of the great orchestras.

JOHN ALLISON

Street-smart and user-friendly

POP

Fugees
Wembley Arena

Any lingering doubts about the ability of hip hop acts to project themselves in an arena environment were swiftly dispelled by Fugees on the first of two nights at this 12,000-capacity venue. Having taken rap to the heart of the pop mainstream with their multi-million selling album *The Score*, the three vocalists from New Jersey have now adapted their street-corner performing style to encompass the stagecraft of a heavy rock act.

Their entrance resembled an SAS operation as Wyclef "Clef" Jean swung in from the wings on a rope amid a barrage of exploding fireworks. Strapping on a guitar, he led the backing band — bass, drums and record decks — into an emotionally charged rendition of Bob Marley's *No Woman, No Cry*. The crowd went nuts, and a lot of performers would have settled for such a reaction at the very climax of their set. Fugees were only just beginning.

Prakazrel "Pras" Michel was next to arrive. Swinging in from an elevated section at the back to the soundtrack from *Mission Impossible*, he kept on running, leapt over the lip of the stage and treated the front rows of the audience to a hands-on greeting. The pregnant Lauryn "L" Hill, who wisely elected to walk on, then launched into an endearing version of the Jackson Five's *I Want You Back* with words altered to tell the tale of when Fugees came to London.

With their slick adaptations of hoary pop standards including Bob Dylan's *Knockin' On Heaven's Door* and the inevitable *Killing Me Softly*, they pursued a populist strategy with a single-minded determination that was more Peter, Paul and Mary than Public Enemy.

And yet, shuffling and bouncing around the stage in their baggy clothes and Timberland boots (minus laces), they maintained credibility with a succession of harder hip hop numbers, interspersed with their trademark "refugee" raps.

They were rewarded with one of the most unequivocal demands for an encore I can remember, and obliged with a nail-hard version of *Cowboys*. Fugees certainly rocked this house.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Live in the hall of fame

Nanci Griffith
Dublin

LIKE so many of the songs themselves, Nanci Griffith's show at a packed Olympia was marked by a bittersweet nostalgia. Her current jaunt around Europe's plushest venues is to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Texan singer-songwriter's involvement with the Blue Moon Orchestra, her distinguished backing band, but she also announced that it would be her last world tour.

Given the pedigree of the musicians on stage — even the roadie was once Roy Orbison's guitarist — this three-hour set was a dizzying, almost overwhelming experience. The early part of the show drifted by in a fairly low-key fashion before Griffith, in her soft, almost polite vocal style, essayed a multi-lingual version of the song which made her famous in this part of the world, *From a Distance*.

The arrival of special guests the Crickets upped the ante. Normally, when a singer introduces a song by announcing that it was written by the drummer about his first wife, one should make one's excuses and leave. But when the singer is Sonny Curtis, the drummer J. I. Alison and the song *Peggy Sue*, one has no option but to sit back and marvel. Having led the band through all of Buddy Holly's best-loved songs, Curtis was joined by the Blue Moon Orchestra for a rousing version of his classic, *I Fought the Law*.

After an interval, Griffith was back centre stage, showcasing songs from her new album, *Blue Roses from the Moons*. With songs that are by turns melancholic and buoyant, and performed flawlessly by the finest players around, this show is a tour de force.

NICK KELLY

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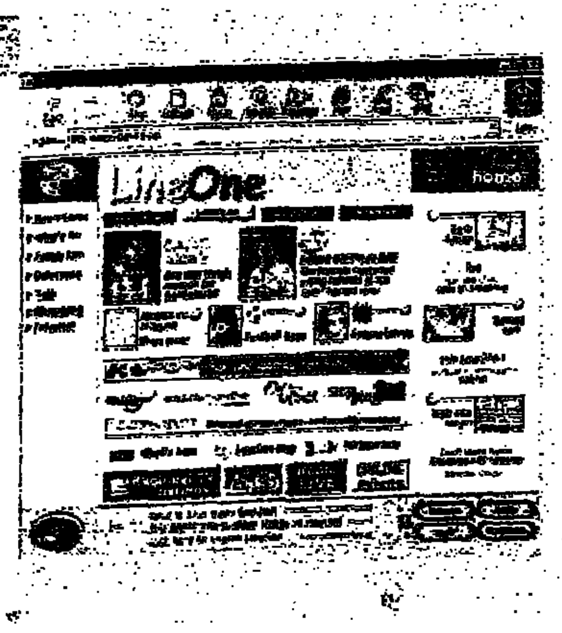
Verdi
La traviata



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■ CHOICE 1

Corin Redgrave is Marat in Jeremy Sams's production of *Marat/Sade*

VENUE: In preview from tonight at the Olivier

■ CHOICE 2

Jonathan Miller's *La traviata* is revived by English National Opera

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Coliseum in London

THE TIMES ARTS

■ THEATRE 1

Prima donna portrayed: *Master Class* is an absorbing Terrence McNally play about Maria Callas

■ THEATRE 2

... but at Chichester *Lady Windermere's Fan* barely comes to life, despite sumptuous frocks

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by *Gillian Maxey*

LONDON

MARAT/SADE Corin Redgrave plays Marat, David Calder is the Marquis and Anastasia Hille plays Charlotte Corday in Jeremy Sams's in-the-round production of the Peter Weiss drama on freedom and tyranny.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews begin tonight, 7.15pm. *Opens May 14, 7pm. Then in rep with The Caucasian Chalk Circle.*

MY MOTHER SAID I NEVER SHOULD Charlotte Keatley's classic exploration of the mother-daughter bond, said to be the most frequently performed play in Britain. Dominic Cooke directs Jane Lowe, Pauline Lynch, Grace Mitchell and Robyn Moore for Oxford Stage Co's touring production.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 4776). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens May 12. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Tue and Thurs, 2pm. Until May 31.

LA TRAVIATA Leah Hausman directs *English National Opera* in a revival of Jonathan Miller's production of Verdi's tragic romance. Susan Patterson returns to the role of the courtesan Violetta with Christopher Booth-Jones and Julian Gavin as the father and son who bring Violetta so much grief and joy.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then May 14, 17 (6.30pm), 20, 23, 28, 30, June 12, 14, 18, 20, 23, 7.30pm Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

BEVERLEY The **Beverley and East Riding Early Music Festival** opens today with a massed choir event in Beverley Minster at 7pm featuring singers from all over the region. This year's festival, the tenth, includes lunchtime concerts, workshops for children and concerts by candlelight. Guest artists include the Gabrieli Consort, Fretwork, Sirinu, Red Priest and theorbist Paula Chateauneuf.
Tourist Information Centre, Guildhall, Register Square (01482 884354). Today-Sun, various times and venues.

COVENTRY The **Moscow State Symphony Orchestra** *begins a short* tour of Britain under the baton of Pavel Kogan. This evening's programme begins with Tchaikovsky's *Francesca da Rimini* and Sibelius's Violin Concerto played by Dmitri Kogan. After the interval, the orchestra plays Khachaturian's *Spartacus* Suite and the *Pines of Rome* by Respighi.
Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick (01203 524524). Tonight, 8pm. Next in **Cardiff**, St David's Hall (01222 878444), tomorrow, **Sheffield**, City Hall (0114-273 5295), Saturday.

MANCHESTER: Marianne Elliott directs Brad Fraser's tough and moving **Poor Super Man**, where five *thirtysomethings are entangled in love* and obsession, betrayal and regret.
Royal Exchange, Upper Campfield Street (0161-833 9833). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens May 13, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 7.

STRATFORD: Alex Jennings in the title role of **Hamlet**, Matthew Warchus's strongly cast production, with Derbhle Crotty, Paul Freeman, David Ryall and Edward Petherbridge.
***Royal Shakespeare**, Waterside* (01789 295623). Opens tonight, 7pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Christopher Hull: Renos Loizou: Recent Paintings (0171-235 0500) **Coombs Contemporary**: Charles Williams, recent paintings, Calvin Russell, *recent sculpture* (0171-403 6866) **Delfina**: Ludger Gerdes (0171-357 6600) **Grosvenor**: Sebastian Horsley: The Great White Series (0171-629 0891) **Llewellyn Alexander**: George Large (0171-620 1322) **Mall**: Royal Society of Portrait Painters (0171-930 6844) **New Academy**: Barry Atherton: "Archaeology and Reconstruction" (0171-323 4700) **October**: Hai Shuoi Yeung: Innovation in Abstraction (0171-242 7367)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BAILEGANGAIRE** Welcome revival of Tom Murphy's mesmeric play where *Rosaleen Linehan's Mommo keeps her* daughters (Brid Brennan, Ruth McCabe) in suspense, waiting to hear the climax of a tale of distant tragedy. James MacDonald directs.
Royal Court Upstairs at the Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Sat, 4pm.

◪ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.** Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and *Alasdair Harvey* as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens May 13, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **CRACKED** In Daniel Hill's curious *comedy set in the desert*, a cast of nine men, including Anthony Calf and Alexander Hanson, play members of an army unit intended to treat traumatised soldiers. Under pressure, they fall apart. Terry Johnson directs.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, *NW3* (0171-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until May 17.

☐ **FRANKLY SCARLETT** Farcical comedy about the making of that film about Miss O'Hara. Peter Polycarpou *plays David O. Selznick. Written by Peter* Morris and Philip George, who directs.
King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm. Until May 25.

☐ ***THE GOODBYE GIRL*** Gary Wilmot, Ann Crumb and Shezwae Powell in the Hamlisch/Zippel musical version of Neil Simon's play. Dancer dumped by *one actor and landed with another* gradually finds love. Aah. Directed by Rob Bettinson.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.30pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

☐ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING OSCAR** Micheal MacLiammoir's celebrated tribute to Wilde, movingly revived by Simon Callow, conveying the wit, the gravity, the distress.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until May 17.

☐ **THE MAI** Dublin prizewinner by Marina Carr, author of the haunting *Portia Coughlan. Four generations of* women whose lives men have variously disrupted. Nicolas Kent directs.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats *Sat, 4pm. Until June 7.*

☐ **MARLENE** Siân Phillips gives an attractive performance as the singer with the golden sheath dress. On the whole, *more successful than Pam Gems's play.*
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **POPCORN.** Ben Elton's blistering comedy about movie violence. A Tarantinoesque director gets his comeuppance when a couple of serial killers (great playing by Patrick O'Kane and Dena Davis) blame him for their misdeeds. Laurence Boswell directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 *(0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats* Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Grease**, *Cambridge (0171-494 5080)* ☐ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) *on release across the country*

NEW RELEASES

THE BOY FROM MERCURY (PG) Alienated eight-year-old boy decides that he comes from outer space. Slight but sweet Irish film. Writer-director Martin Duffy.
***ABC Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470)*

DONNIE BRASCO (18) FBI agent Johnny Depp befriends Mafia wiseguy Al Pacino. Thoughtful gangster saga directed by Mike Newell.
Notting Hill Coronet Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ *(0990 888990)* **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

FEMALE PERVERSIONS (18) Tilda Swinton's lawyer faces an identity crisis. Striking American feminist film.
ABCs: Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148)

◆ **LIAR LIAR** (12) Lawyer Jim Carrey tells the truth for 24 hours. Attractive comedy, soft round the edges.
***ABCs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772)* **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0990-888 990) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) ***UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990)* **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

MARGARET'S MUSEUM (15). Helena Bonham Carter suffers in a Nova Scotia mining community. So do we.
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Virgin Chelsea** *(0171-352 5096)*

◆ **SCREAM** (18): Wes Craven's horror romp, with Neve Campbell.
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343).

CURRENT

◆ **EDDIE** (12): Whoopi Goldberg becomes a basketball coach. Yawn-inducing comedy. Director Steve Rash.
UCI Whiteleys Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ ***JERRY MAGUIRE*** (15): A sports PR agent gets a conscience. Enjoyable, if overlong comedy, with Tom Cruise.
Empire (0990 888990) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **THE SAINT** (12). Botched revival of Leslie Charteris's gentleman thief played by Val Kilmer. With Elisabeth Shue. Director, Philip Noyce.
Empire Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **SECRETS & LIES** (15): Mike Leigh's Cannes triumph, an uneven but absorbing tale about family life. With Brenda Blethyn and Timothy Spall.
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

◆ **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO + JULIET** (12): *Effervescent* contemporary treatment, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (0181-315 4215) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

For whom the curtain calls

THEATRE

Master Class
Queens

Straight or (a better word here) straightish plays do not run a year and a half on Broadway without being either decidedly bad or decidedly good. I know operaphiles who would place Terrence McNally's *Master Class* in the first category, arguing that its portrait of Maria Callas in the schoolroom cheapens a complex woman for the sake of glib laugh-lines. But when I saw Zoe Caldwell in the role 18 months ago I was hugely taken by her performance, and concluded that there must be something right with a piece which allowed her to embody fastidiousness, irony, egoism, rigour, bitterness, vulnerability and more.

I still feel that way, even though Patti LuPone lacks the same range. She is effective when painful memories come heaving up from her stomach; less so when it comes to catching the astringency, the Greek bluntness, the brusque pride: "Rivals? How can you have rivals when no one else can do what you do?" LuPone would doubtless sing better than Caldwell, but McNally's Callas does so only for a sad moment meant to demonstrate that, by 1971, when the play occurs, the great voice was in ruins.

McNally conceived the play as a solo turn, then added a pianist and three aspiring singers, transposed the action to Juilliard for the Broadway production, and now relocates it in a vaguely Grecian hall. This means that although Callas dominates the stage even when she retreats to her stool with a disingenuous "Poof! I'm invisible", her monomaniac commitment to her Muse comes across more dramatically.

"Recondita armonia" —Tosca
"Nel dì della vittoria... Vieni! t'affretta!" —Macbeth
"Oh! Se una volta sola... Ah! non credea mirarti" —La Sonnambula
Master Callas
Hewison 97

Patti LuPone as Maria Callas and David Shrubsole, musical supervisor and onstage accompanist, in *Master Class*

She injects a little soul into the plump girl in frilly pink (Sophia Wylie) who trills through Amina's lament in *La Sonnambula* sounding as if she has lost a chocolate bar to the school bully, not a rural Onassis to a pristine Jackie Kennedy. She browbeats a cocky tenor (David Anderson) into giving a performance of *Recondita armonia* from *Tosca* that briefly reduces her to tears. She is denounced as a destructive and self-destructive monster by the edgy, ambitious soprano (Susan Roper) she has guided through Lady Macbeth's letter-reading scene.

By then it is clear that Callas is a lot more than that. There are times when neither McNally's script nor LuPone's performance disguises the tension inherent in an evening that asks us both to laugh at the wayward diva and respect the dedicated professional and wounded woman. Perhaps the cracks (as at Sutherland's "12-foot Lucia di Lammermoor") are sometimes too easy. Perhaps the apercus about art ("the theatre is a sacred place") can clunk a bit. But the play has its hilarious moments, and Callas's credo, that singing requires both total exposure of the self and utter attention to technical detail, surely bears the repetition it gets here.

And the Callas bio? That comes in asides and in two longish episodes when the stage darkens, LuPone's haggard face is spotlit, and the voice of the singer is heard on disc, while the woman remembers Onassis's coarse boastfulness and contempt for her music. Some of this, notably the time he forced her to have an abortion, feels skimpy. But it helps to remind us who Callas was, and why.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Ham cuts no mustard

IT RESURRECTED a languishing career for Wilde, but **Lady Windermere's Fan** needs a spark of genius to transform it into a credible comedy for the 1990s. Richard Cottrell's period production at the Chichester Festival Theatre is one of the most sumptuously dressed I've ever seen, but there is barely a flicker of credibility about it. Perhaps we are too used to seeing the upper classes draped around heroin habits and persons of easy virtue. Whatever, this quaint scandal, where a lady's fan is discovered in the wrong gentleman's apartment, is an entirely rose-tinted affair.

On a set that would grace a Saudi Arabian palace, Siri O'Neal's young and puritanical Lady Windermere does ballroom battle with a glamorous middle-aged woman. Mrs Erlynne's mysterious hold over Tim Waller's squeaky clean Lord Windermere fuels adulterous suspicions, while he cannot lance them without tainting the honour of his wife.

Cottrell directs with all the melodramatic stops pulled out. Forehead on forearm, hand on heart, O'Neal delivers her wronged wife speeches as if she is about to be dragged off by men with cloaks and daggers. You can almost hear bodices ripping as Lady Windermere and Mrs Erlynne are caught in Lord Darlington's rooms after lights out. Letting her steely dignity slip, Stephanie Beacham's Mrs Erlynne uses her moment of maternal passion to unleash even more vintage histrionics.

For the rest of the cast it's a bit like dressage. They come trotting on, left foot forward, make their brittle comedic contribution and retreat, usually harnessed to a wife. The glorious exception to all this overacting is the interplay between James Wallace's twentysomething Cecil Graham and John McCallum's Lord Lorton. Here the malicious wit of a young, upper-class untouchable cuts funny stripes off a crusty moral ditherer.

It is left to Googie Withers's Duchess of Berwick to instal a pacemaker on fervently beating hearts. She sails through the production like the Queen Mother celebrating her 206th birthday, all bosom, feathers and parasol, wrapping scandal up in a blanket like a Victorian agony aunt. If only she could have stifled the needless excesses of this baroque melodrama.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

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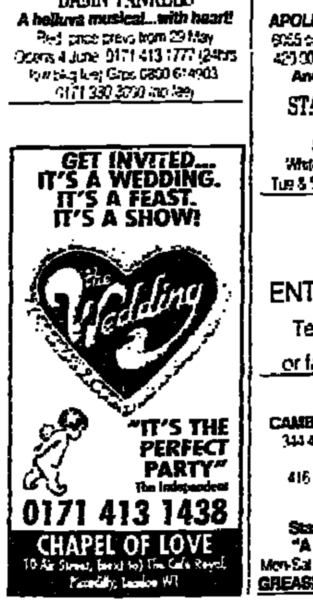

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■ FILM 1

Kolya is a delightfully observed portrait of 1980s Prague seen through Czech eyes

■ FILM 2

. . . whereas the risible *Anaconda* serves us a preposterous 40ft snake

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ FILM 3

Racism and a quest for legal justice fuel the earnest *Ghosts from the Past*

■ FILM 4

With *Kids Return,* Takeshi Kitano delivers a mature and searching look at disaffected Japanese youth

Touched by a little genius

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** is won over by the honest charm of an old man and a young boy in *Kolya*

"He endears himself without acting cute or crying on cue": Andrej Chalimon, the young Russian playing a young Russian in the Oscar-winning *Kolya*

So where would you like to travel this week? A cardboard cut-out Mississippi, the Brazilian rainforest, Hollywood's view of 18th-century London, or Prague? Let's go to Prague, a city last seen on international screens as Tom Cruise's playground in *Mission Impossible*. But in the enchanting **Kolya**, winner of this year's Best Foreign Film Oscar, you can experience the city through Czech eyes.

The time is 1989, in the months before the Velvet Revolution. The hero is Louka, a middle-aged musician and ladies' man, who faces a personal crisis. Kolya is the crisis. He is a five-year-old Russian boy, the son of a Russian woman who becomes Louka's wife in a *paper marriage. When* Kolya's mother skedaddles to West Germany, Louka finds himself landed with this bemused urchin, who speaks no Czech. Crusty bachelor meets adorable moppet: no wonder the film was acquired for distribution by Disney.

But there is nothing overly sentimental about this fourth feature from Jan Svěrák, most prominent of the young Czech directors. Certainly it is heartwarming, but every rise in temperature is achieved by careful observation of ordinary life, spry comic timing, and the gentlest humour. For some of these virtues, Svěrák must thank his father Zdeněk, an actor and screenwriter who has often worked with the Czech New Wave veteran Jiří Menzel. As well as writing the script, the elder Svěrák invests Louka with a ragamuffin charm.

Menzel's own films have *suffered from an overdose of* bucolic nostalgia: in the 1970s and 1980s it was a way of playing safe. But *Kolya* can afford to be beady-eyed about life under Communist rule. We learn how Louka, a cellist defrocked by the Czech Philharmonic, survives by accompanying funeral services and renovating tombstones. We tangle with the social services, we sense the mutual suspicions of enforced allies, the Russians and Czechs.

At times, Svěrák's direction is almost too relaxed. Until Kolya appears, the film twiddles its thumbs, idling between characters. Later, Svěrák tightens his grip, executing a superbly timed scene on the underground system, where father loses son and feels it. But however taut the director's shots, the film could still have capsized into schmaltz with the wrong child actor. Luckily Andrej Chalimon endears himself without acting cute or crying on cue. *Kolya* deserves all its international success.

But what does **Anaconda** deserve? Guffaws, mostly, as it tries to scare audiences with an animatronic snake that sucks the life from most of the cast but leaves Jon Voight free to snarl, flash his evil eyes and chew the Brazilian rainforest. Like 1995's *Congo*, this is a B-movie writ large, which assumes that bursts of high-tech effects will hide an impossible, antique script. They do not.

We begin aboard an Amazon river barge chugging along with a documentary film crew in search of an Indian tribe. Jennifer Lopez is its director; Eric Stoltz is the anthropologist, while Ice Cube wields the camera. Their first mistake is rescuing Voight's adventurer from his stranded boat; their second is letting him steer them towards his secret prey, a 40ft anaconda. Designed by Walt Conti, who engineered the whale in *Free Willy*, it never looks real for a moment.

Most of the cast, at least, show a fighting spirit. Voight takes top honours, serving up the most succulent ham. Stoltz retires wounded early on and spends most of the film below deck. The director, the Peruvian Luis Llosa, is more courageous: he faces up to the film's absurdities, and earns points for bare cheek by mounting a point-of-view shot from the anaconda's throat, looking outwards towards its next meal. As bad movies go, *Anaconda* is quite enjoyable.

Not so **Ghosts from the Past**. The film aims for such seriousness, such nobility of purpose, as it charts the mission of a white assistant district attorney to reopen the real-life case of Medgar Evers, the Mississippi civil rights leader murdered in 1963. It aches to join *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a conscience-pricking Hollywood classic, the kind that makes white liberals feel better. But *Ghosts* cannot muster the drama, the passion, the humour or sincerity to make the grade.

What it can muster is Alec Baldwin, Hollywood hunk. Not known for playing morally radiant human beings, he is asked to make goodness shine forth from Bobby DeLaughter (pronounced Delawter), the lawyer eager to bring to justice the suspected murderer, a raging racist twice set free by juries 25 years before. Baldwin tries hard, but still looks too much the smiling rascal.

It would help if characters and situations were drawn with *more* than *one* dimension, but subtlety and shading are unknown. So is humour. DeLaughter is aiming for sainthood, and saints don't tell jokes, least of all Myrtle Evers, the widow whose support he courts. Whoopi Goldberg sails through that role like a royal yacht, calm, dignified, and quite unreal.

Any fire the film contains is confined to Byron De La Beckwith, the Ku Klux Klan man who freely admits, outside the courtroom, that he murdered Evers. James Woods tackles this character with his usual verve and venom. Not for the first time, the devil appears to have all the best tunes, which is obviously not the impression the film's makers intended.

Kids Return is by Takeshi Kitano. So the connoisseur should expect designer violence cheek by jowl with humour and visual poetry, on the order of *Sonatine*. But this time Kitano does not deliver. Instead, the Japanese maverick offers a quasi-realist drama about two adolescent layabouts and their drift towards boxing and crime.

Often the camera is content to sit, soaking up ritual exercises in the gym. Only occasionally does Kitano go for the lyrical or cryptic flourish, lingering over the boys' cycling, or conveying a bit of school sabotage with an elliptical cut to a fire engine. The film's sober and thoughtful style may be a result of autobiography: Kitano is partly remembering his own school days in the mid-1960s. We lose in the process some surface excitement; we gain a mature and searching film about Japanese youth, their hopes and fears.

The week is completed with **Moll Flanders**, which takes Daniel Defoe's character, although not his exact plot, and drains the life from her. Neither bawdy enough for popular tastes, nor intelligent enough for highbrows, this American film, shot in Ireland in 1995, tries hard to breathe 18th-century air. But no spirit animates the clutter of cobblestones, carriages, courtesans and thieves. As the impoverished heroine, Robin Wright is too busy acting to appear natural; while even the usually excellent Stockard Channing makes a pig's ear of Mrs Allworthy, the madam who gives Moll a home.

Kolya
Curzon Mayfair
12, 105 mins
Enchanting Czech Oscar winner

Anaconda
Odeon Leicester Square
15, 89 mins
Daft doings in Brazil's rainforest

Ghosts from the Past
Warner West End
15, 131 mins
Simplistic race relations drama

Kids Return
ICA Cinema, 107 mins
Thoughtful film from Takeshi Kitano

Moll Flanders
ABC Shaftesbury Ave
12, 122 mins
Moll becomes dull

SNAP VERDICT

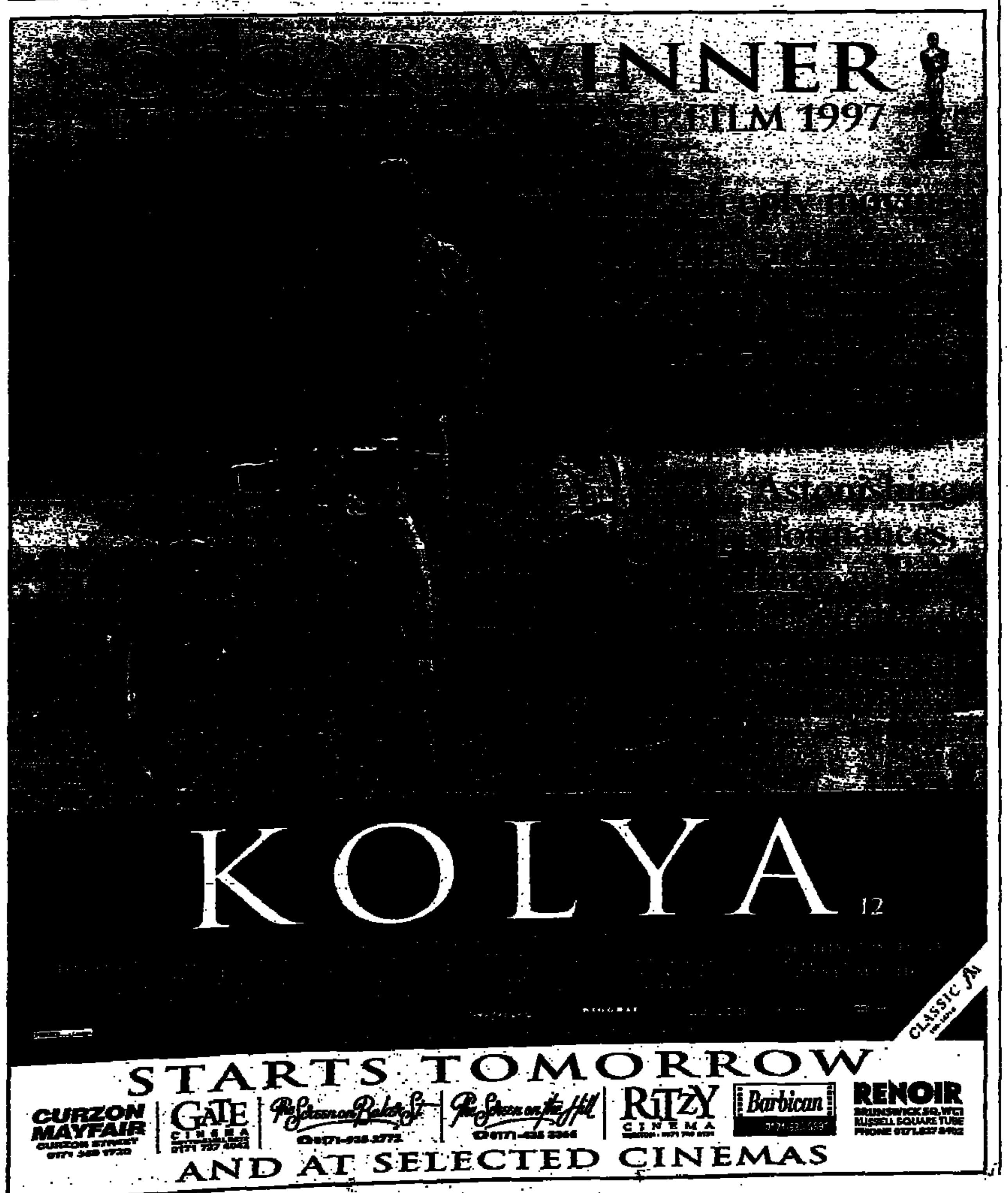
'Bottom end of the scale'

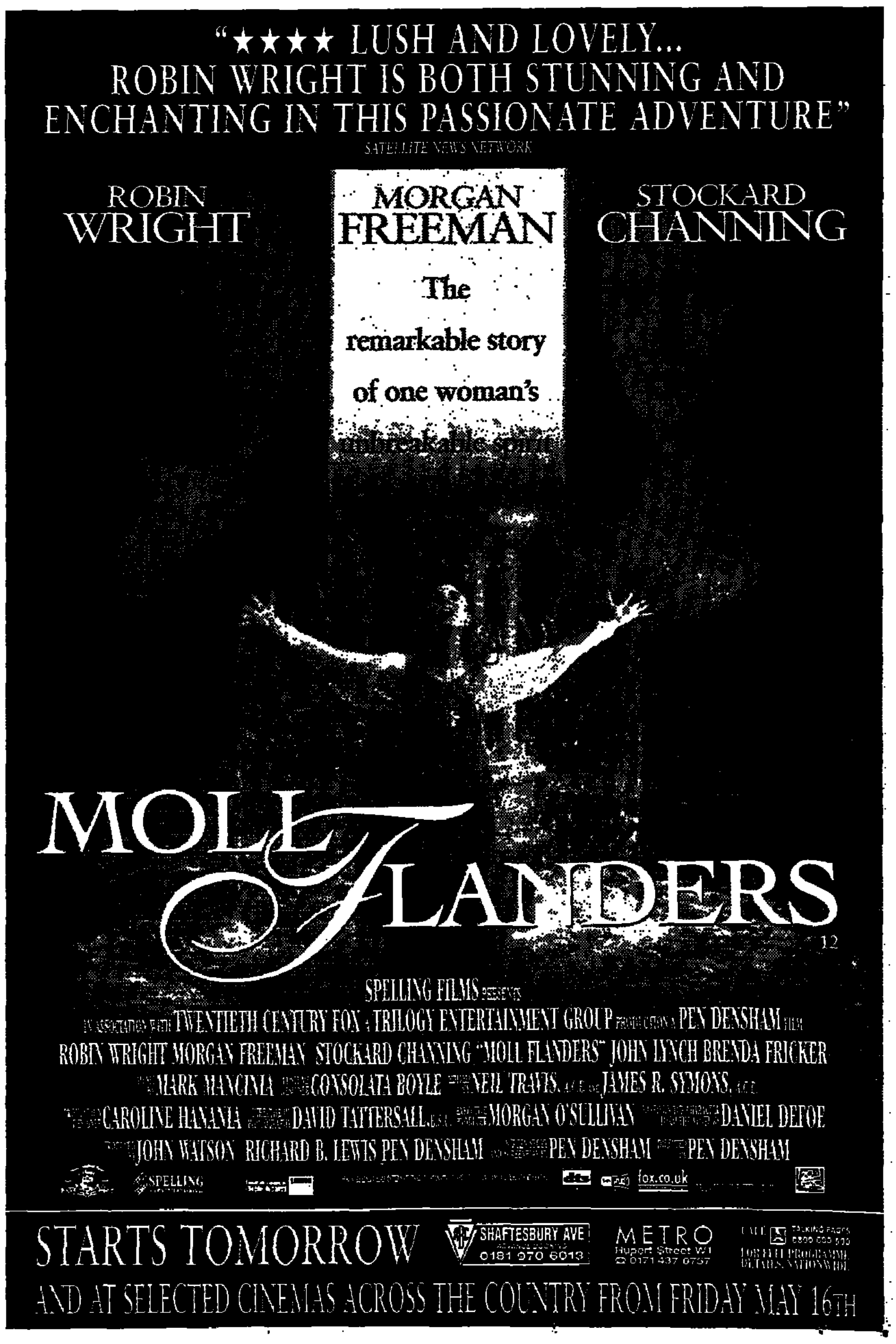
Every week, young film fans discuss some of the latest releases . . .

☐ *ANACONDA*
Damian Samuels, 19: This *forked-tongue-in-cheek* adventure film makes the beast in question as scary as a draught-excluder.
Timothy Thornton, 21: Far too *many clichés for it to work,* even as a comedy.
Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 18: Not the greatest movie in hiss-tory, but I was gripped. Take your main squeeze for company — it's scary.
Sarah Crook, 18: The bottom end of the scale.

☐ *GHOSTS FROM THE PAST*
Damian: *Little Big Man* meets *To Kill a Mockingbird* meets *Mississippi Burning* in this gripping drama.
Timothy: James Woods deserved the Oscar nomination, but Whoopi Goldberg was a little out of her depth.
Leslie: The acting was of the highest standard, but director Rob Reiner failed to bring this powerful story to life.
Sarah: Woods gives a cracking performance.

☐ *MOLL FLANDERS*
Damian: Rent the video of the *television version* instead — it's funnier, feistier, and the nudity count is higher.
Timothy: A great cast does well with an average script.
Leslie: *Jon Lynch gives one of* the finest screen performances of the year.
Sarah: An enjoyable romp. Robin Wright really relishes the fun.





"★★★★ LUSH AND LOVELY... ROBIN WRIGHT IS BOTH STUNNING AND ENCHANTING IN THIS PASSIONATE ADVENTURE"
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The Master's Last Supper at High Table

Garret FitzGerald

A LIFE IN OXFORD
By Anthony Kenny
John Murray, £30
ISBN 0 7195 5061 0

There are all kinds of philosophers: some narrowly focused on particular aspects of philosophy, others wide-ranging in their interests; some introverted, others gregarious. Tony Kenny's interests are wide, his disposition sociable. Accordingly this, the second part of his autobiography, is accessible to a wide audience — although a reader interested in the world of ideas will enjoy it most. Even those who are not of a philosophical bent will, however, be engrossed by his insider's account of Oxford from the early 1960s to the late 1980s.

Because he came to philosophy through his training in the scholastic tradition while studying for the priesthood in the Gregorian University in Rome, Tony Kenny's thinking has never been narrowly dominated by the British analytic tradition. He is highly critical, however, of the arid and unintellectual way in which Aristotelian and Thomistic philosophy was taught in the Gregorian, and most of the philosophy that the then absorbed, together with his un-English sense of the genius of Thomas Aquinas, came paradoxically from his theological studies at that institution.

The issues he has tackled in a lifetime of research and publication have been extensive — ranging from such topics as God's existence, faith, and free will, to specific moral issues like nuclear deterrence and the definition of murder.

He addressed the latter subject after taking Bar Examinations late in life, conscious of the danger that failure in these tests might well have provoked the headline: "Master of Balliol flunks elementary examination". Typically, he remarks that one of the advantages of being a law student around 1980 was that in that capacity he received the circulars of the National Union of Students "and thus became privy to whatever mischief was brewing against Vice-Chancellors and Heads of Oxbridge Houses"!

In 1978 he visited Czechoslovakia with his wife Nancy in support of the philosopher-dissident Professor Julius Tomin. A seminar on Aristotle in Tomin's flat was broken up by the secret police. Nancy and he, after interrogation in police headquarters — where he was berated for talking philosophy with a "group of criminals" — were taken to the border and left to find their way, carrying their baggage, across a valley to a German frontier post. These events became something of a *cause celèbre* at the time.

His reflections on the morality of nuclear deterrence led him in his book on *The Logic of Deterrence* to the uncompromising conclusion that, whatever the merits of a nuclear deterrent that would not be used as an alternative to surrender, if someone arguing for the deterrent "says and means that 'you must go right in and use it if it ever comes to the crunch'... then I can only tell him, quite soberly, that he is a man with murder in his heart."

Kenny: warm-hearted

Kenny recounts that on one occasion when seated next to Caspar Weinberger, then US Secretary of Defense, at an Oxford Union dinner, he apologised for having become heated on this subject, adding that "if you have the power to destroy the world, you must expect people to get excited when talking to you". "But perhaps", Weinberger replied, "I have the power to save it too." Not since the Last Supper, Tony Kenny remarks, had such a claim been made over the dinner table

When Roy Jenkins succeeded Harold Macmillan as Chancellor of Oxford, Tony Kenny and myself were amongst his honorands. While he was an obvious choice for the Chancellor's list, I felt that my own inclusion owed something to the rejection by the Congregation of the University of an earlier proposal to honour Margaret Thatcher. As I found when I went over the incoming Chancellor's honorands back to 1904, almost every outstanding British politician of the century was included at one time or another. But in the light of the incumbent Prime Minister's earlier rejection by the Congregation of the University, Roy Jenkins clearly could not include her name on his list — nor could he very well honour other British politicians. And that, I feel, was how I came in, as the next best thing to a British politician!

Ireland is indebted to Tony Kenny for his generous interest in the Northern Ireland problem which he has demonstrated by his involvement in the British/Irish Association and by his Vice-Chairmanship of the unofficial Kilbrandon Commission, which studied and reported on the work of the New Ireland Forum.

The Commission rightly criticised the biased historical section of the Forum Report — which my party and others had to concede to Fianna Fail as the price of getting Agreement on the conclusions. But Kilbrandon nevertheless concluded that while joint authority of the two Governments over Northern Ireland was impracticable, the joint authority proposal nevertheless contained ideas that were worth pursuing. As a result its publication in November 1984, when the negotiations for the Anglo-Irish agreement of the following year were moving into a difficult stage, helped to create a climate in which the problems created by Margaret Thatcher's "Out, out, out" press conference a couple of weeks after its publication, were eventually overcome.

Tony Kenny's subsequent book, *The Road to Hillsborough*, demonstrated his sustained interest in and concern for the problem of Northern Ireland.

A Life In Oxford is an attractive account of an important part of the life of an English intellectual — a man with wide interests and a warm heart.

Bearing mute witness

Michael Arditti

THE DUMB HOUSE
By John Burnside
Cape, £9.99
ISBN 0 224 04307 6

GIVEN that empathy is the essence of fiction, it comes as a shock to encounter a protagonist so detached from conventional responses that he regards other people as objects, of interest only to the extent that they relate to him. That shock is intensified when he narrates his own story with intelligence and a sensitivity to language. Such was the case with Tarquin Winot in John Lanchester's *The Debt to Pleasure* and it is repeated in John Burnside's debut novel, *The Dumb House*.

The novel's unnamed narrator is is obsessed with the function of language: its ability to give shape and meaning to the universe. Inspired by the Persian myth of Akbar the Great, who filled a palace (the Dumb House) with newborn children, attended only by mutes, in an attempt to find whether speech was intrinsic, he sets out to discover the secrets of language.

He regards himself as a scientist "wholly dedicated to the experiment", but, from his first encounter with a strangely docile woman whom he violates and her silent son whom he assaults, it is clear that his objectivity is compromised. He compares himself to da Vinci or Vesalius, but, when he subjects his own twins to deprivation and violence, he steps closer to the Dr Knox who employed Burke and Hare.

Burnside makes no attempt to explain his protagonist's psychopathy, although it is undoubtedly connected with his dead mother, for whom he has a Norman Bates-like obsession. She encouraged his morbid tendencies by showing him the corpses of animals and his inhuman detachment by telling him the story of the Dumb House. Her abiding presence and the rituals he performs at her death recall Ian McEwan.

This is a demanding novel, as single-minded in its prose as in its narrator's purpose. From the first paragraph, it is evident that words are to be Burnside's theme as much as his medium. He skilfully exposes the limitations of language while asserting the power of fiction to reveal what lies behind speech.

MICHAEL BENNETT

Who's a cheeky monkey?

Alain de Botton vocalises his praise of a novelist who satirises the human race with chimpunity

GREAT APES
By Will Self
Bloomsbury £14.99
ISBN 0 7475 2867 0

In his excellent second novel, Will Self asks us to imagine what the world would be like if evolution had taken a different route. Instead of humans ruling the most, what if chimpanzees were in charge? What if they were the ones to have evolved complex societies, built cities, developed cars and fancy restaurants? Moreover, what if they had wiped out most humans, and considered them with a mixture of pity and condescension, keeping a few of them for their entertainment in decrepit conditions in London Zoo?

The novel opens in contemporary London. Our hero is a young man called Simon Dykes, a successful artist who has made his name painting semi-abstract representations of disaster scenes (he is famed for his canvas of the King's Cross fire), and who leads a riotous life, taking copious quantities of drugs and alcohol. After a particularly heavy night at Soho's Sealink Club (a wink at the Groucho), Simon wakes up in bed with more than just a hang-over. Something isn't right, for his girlfriend Sarah has grown rather hirsute overnight. She is also letting out a few grunts. In fact, as Simon realises to his horror, she has become a chimpanzee.

Not that Sarah thinks anything of this. Everyone is a chimpanzee, she tells him: when Simon looks outside, the streets are filled with chimps going about their business. They're swinging from trees, copulating in parks and inspecting each other's rears in the street. When Simon says it's all crazy, he is quickly declared insane, and a medical team carry him off to Charing Cross Hospital where he is kept in a secure room. There he is put into the care of an affable chimp psychiatrist called Zach Busner, who teaches him to come to terms with his own chimpness. Simon gradually accepts that he isn't human, that this is merely a delusion caused by damage to brain tissue, and that the chimp way of life is the best there is.

It is to Self's credit that this satire should end up as more than an intellectual conceit. The book's charm lies in part in the obvious delight Self takes in reinventing our world along chimp lines. First there is chimp vocabulary: the apes speak of someone having chimpunity (humanity), when they lose their temper, they go humanshit (apeshit), while on chimp television, Anton Mosichimp and Lloyd Grosschimp host a popular cookery programme. Sex never lasts more than a few minutes, incest is the greatest treat for the kids, and being allowed to sniff someone's anus is a privilege. In Regent's Park we see Sloaney chimp mothers "vocalise to one another with the extended grunts of their class" while a slap-up breakfast consists of a bowl of well-chewed sloe berries.

Of course, as in the best satires, this journey through the alien world of chimps is at heart a deeply serious (and even moving) call for us to reconsider the shortcomings of the human world. Self's achievement is to show us how we might all benefit from getting in touch with the chimp inside us.

Caught fast in the net

Sadie Plant

HARD, SOFT AND WET
The Digital Generation Comes of Age
By Melanie McGrath
HarperCollins, £16.99
ISBN 0 00 255586 7

THE engaging record of Melanie McGrath's explorations of digital culture, *Hard, Soft and Wet*, is at once a romance, a cultural commentary, and a piece of travel writing which adds the virtual world to its itinerary as though it were a new place on the map. Spanning several countries and detailing relationships with a wealth of characters — including Nancy, Nancy's friend Clare, Daniel the DJ, not to mention the two Macs (one a computer, the other a young man) — this is also a personal account of intense friendships and emotions. McGrath writes with an intimacy which might well feel gratuitous if it weren't for the perverse extent to which the Net itself seems to demand such confidential tones. E-mail and on-line conversation can be far more intimate than face-to-face exchanges between best friends. E-mail is described as "an imperfect form of telepathy".

FIRST INDEPENDENT

Embracing virtuality

This is a story in which everything grows up, old, or at least used to the digital world. What begins as an alien culture, young and seductive, becomes familiar, routine, and far more diverse by the end of the book. First waves of enthusiasm give way to the reflective waters in which this book so elegantly swims.

As the Net and computers come of age, McGrath sees herself growing up as well. It is a compelling parallel, and McGrath is perfectly poised to record the unique qualities of this slice of history. But there are times when it also runs the risk of reducing a decade of technological and cultural change to a tale of personal growth and development.

When she draws her conclusions in Singapore, McGrath discovers that what appeared to be her quest for the future was more of a search for eternal youth, an attempt to keep the realities of adult life at bay. All of which is immensely plausible, but far less engaging than the astute portrayals of people, conversations, and encounters which give this book its edge.

Sadie Plant's Zeros and Ones: Unmanning the Culture of the Future *will be published in August by Fourth Estate.*

Despite the ravages of war Vietnam can be lovable, says **Jonathan Mirsky**

Of Mae and Ho

A WAVERING GRACE
A Vietnamese Family in War and Peace
By Gavin Young
Viking, £17.99
ISBN 0 670 86440 0

As in everything Gavin Young has written — when he was a star at *The Observer* in its great days and in wonderful books like *Slow Boats to China* and *In Search of Conrad* — *A Wavering Grace* brings the atmosphere of Vietnam so near that you can almost taste and smell it. As usual, too, this memoir of a Vietnamese family Mr Young loved over many years and of the country he has the courage to call "lovable" contains many good little stories and in this case one unbeatable one.

In 1965, Mr Young, who had reported the war in Vietnam for three years, interrupted an interview in New York with Mae West, then in her seventies, to rush back to Vietnam to cover the battle for Hue, the imperial Vietnamese capital. Shaken by the destruction of the city, he returned to New York and Mae West. Hearing he'd just been in "Veetnam," she said: "I used to know someone *very* very important there ... His name was — uh — let's see — Ho ... Ho ... Ho something."

Mr Young was staggered but Ms West told him: "You'd better believe it ... I never lie." During the Twenties, she went on, she was starring in her own London show, *Sex*, and staying at the Carlton. Now it is known that Ho Chi Minh was working as a scullion in that hotel and at that time (not under the name Ho, but never mind). "There was this waiter, cook, I don't know what he was. I know he had the slinkiest eyes, though. We met in the corridor. We — well ...' She left things there. Her voice trailed off in a husky sigh ..."

During his almost 30 years in and out of Vietnam Mr Young became a virtual member of a family dominated by the cultivated, brave, and nearly indestructible Mme Ngo Thi Bong, whose husband died fighting the French; one of her boys died fighting the Communists and she went to "comb a remote battlefield for chunks of her son to scoop into a plastic bag and carry home." Mme Bong and Mr Young (who helped some of the family to escape to the United States) watched Vietnam, "like a rare and beautiful butterfly", crushed between the two sides. But Mr Young observed that: "The boisterous American presence hid Vietnam like a crude curtain. The true Vietnam slid by unnoticed if one was not careful: but the movement and colour of this gorgeous country remained." He contemplates ending his days in a delta village "where the rice fields stretch away ... like a shining emerald counterpane", among "these loving, adorable people ... my favourites in the world."

This is the sentimental Mr Young — and why not? There is also Mr Young, the war reporter, holding a dying Vietnamese soldier in his arms whose chest has been torn open by a shell fragment. Mr Young presses his own hand "to the warm liquid mass where his stomach had been." The boy says "hurt me," and soon dies. "I remember feeling this was the end of everything. There was nothing else to do ... one might as well stay here for ever."

He got up instead and eventually gave us this delicate, terrible, and enchanting book.

Portrait at the Pèrfume Pagoda: from Mitch Epstein's *Vietnam: A Book of Changes* (W. W. Norton, £25)

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SATURDAY

Lisa Jardine journeys through Edward Rutherford's *London*

هكذا من الأصل

Far from the finish line

John Maddox wonders whether scientific ends might not be simply new beginnings

John Horgan is an intelligent and reflective writer for *Scientific American*: his book is intelligent but perverse. The title, *The End of Science*, is the message. The method appears to have been to interview people, not always scientists, who are uncertain where science will go from here, weaving their opinions into an argument. Implicitly, Horgan supposes a future free from big surprises. But the supposition is not exclusively implicit; writing of the problem of telling how life began on the surface of the Earth, he says that if living things were discovered on other planets, "we would have to think again". It will be interesting to see how long delayed the rethink will be.

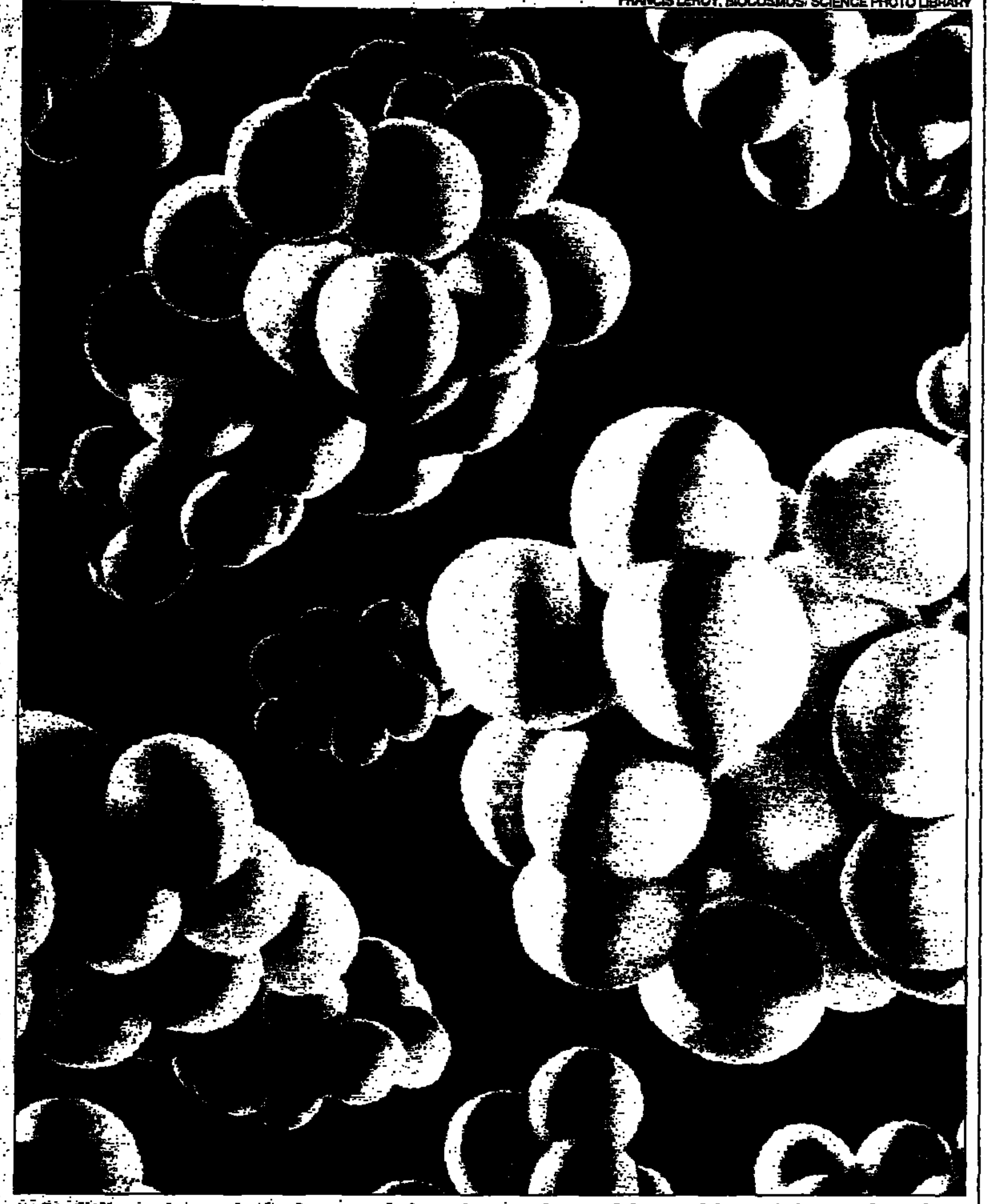
I must declare an interest. I have spent a long time — my publishers would say too long a time — writing a book called *What Remains to be Discovered*. The starting-point, the state of science now, is much the same, but the conclusions are quite the opposite. I conclude (and do believe) that, far from being near its end, science is only just beginning. How is it that two people can reach such different conclusions from essentially the same material?

THE END OF SCIENCE
By John Horgan
Little, Brown, £18.99
ISBN 0 316 64052 2

Each of us notes, for example, that the decade at the end of the 19th century was a previous occasion when the practitioners of science believed that everything worth doing had been done. There were a few unexplained phenomena — X-rays (discovered in 1895), radioactivity (the following year) and the electron (in 1897) — but nobody seriously believed that any one of these contradictions could undermine the great enterprise of mechanics founded by Newton more than two centuries earlier. Yet by 1925 it was all gone, buried beneath Einstein's two theories of relativity and the communal development of quantum mechanics, which is the most penetrating (and successful) theory of how matter moves yet devised.

Horgan's failure, in my opinion, is that he hardly lifts a finger to catalogue the contradictions or lacunae now apparent in science's scheme of things. The dark spots may at present be clouds on the horizon of contentment, no bigger than a man's hand, but who can tell that none of them will prove subversive? One, for example, is that it has not yet proved possible to devise a quantum theory of gravity. That is important because you cannot otherwise claim to understand the earliest phases of the "Big Bang" from which our Universe is supposed to have sprung (but there are other contradictions as well).

Horgan relates that he had the good luck to attend (as a reporter) a meeting in Sweden at which some of those involved with quantum gravity (Stephen Hawking included) talked about solutions to their common problem; Horgan formed the impression that what they were saying was "preposterous" and claims that an anonymous "attendee" agreed with him. Plainly he mistook informed speculations for pronouncements of the truth. Whether there is such a thing as final truth is, of course, an open question.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Small discoveries may lead to larger revelations: electron micrograph image of the staphylococcus bacteria

That, I believe, is the essential difference between us. Horgan shares the view that there are such things as the "laws of physics" (or of chemistry, or biology) that, when discovered in their authentic form, will turn the rest of the field concerned into stamp-collecting. My own opinion, sustained by the history of the fields of which Horgan writes and others, is that progress most often consists of asking familiar question in more penetrating ways. Aristotle, after all, asked some of the questions that later occupied Newton, but only Newton asked them perceptively — and he was then to be superseded by Einstein.

Even in booming molecular biology, the same process is at work. Take the regulation of the activity of genes. For 30 years, this has been one of the central problems. The mechanism was first revealed (as a neat molecular switch) in bacteria, and then found not to apply in other organisms. Then people began identifying small patches of DNA near the genes in higher organisms that seemed to be involved in their regulation. At the outset, each new element was hailed as the vital one; now, when a typical gene may have half a dozen controlling elements, people seem willing to accept that there may be even more of them. That, of course, does not mean that the hunt for gene regulators is lapsing into chaos, but merely that the mechanism is one that is subtle and probably flexible. Nobody fears that there will be no answer.

Simpler questions about genes raise more intriguing problems. Why, for example, are the genes in higher organisms arranged along the length of a finite stretch of DNA, but those of bacteria arranged on a circular chromosome? And why do people have 46 linear chromosomes while all the great apes have 48? None of this is pointless inquiry, nor is it "ironic science" — Horgan's name for untestable and fanciful theories.

There are many detailed issues to dispute in Horgan's book, but there is one sense in which it is "preposterous" (to use his word). Quantum gravity is a central unsolved problem. So is the understanding of the origin of life. Then there is the business of the evolution of human beings in the past 4.5 million years, from which we shall learn our cultural history. It will be time to write about *The End of Science* when all these questions have been answered — except that science will by then have taken up other goals.

Sir John Maddox, Editor Emeritus of Nature, *is the author of* What Remains to be Discovered, *to be published by Macmillan early next year.*

Elizabeth Buchan on a novel of Parisian secrets

Young life that is altered by beauty

Cut open the best writers and the red blood of the rebel and the risk-taker spurts to the surface. The rebel takes no advice and writes what he wishes, not what is expected. The risk-taker prowls the border between disaster and the necessity of recreating and reinventing each new book's imaginative landscape. Rose Tremain is superb at both.

She is also courageous. In choosing the narrator and the subject matter of *The Way I Found Her*, she took a gamble on her powers of persuasion. A 13-year-old falling in love with his mother's employer during the course of a summer spent in Paris is a *situation threaded through* with the difficulty of eliciting our sympathy and empathy, *not least over the* troubling question of sex. She solves it in part by making him clever, precocious and, in the touching, boiled-down verdict lifted from his school report, "a person of resolution".

Lewis's mother, Alice, is a translator. Summoned from Devon to a smart Parisian apartment by the best-selling author of medieval romances, Valentina Gavrilovich, Alice's job is to push the publication schedule ahead. Lewis has come with her to learn French. Her husband, Hugh, uneasy over the state of the marriage, remains in Devon to build a hut in the garden which he imagines will please his wife. From time to time, reports of its progress filter through to Lewis, but they are dim dispatches. For, in Paris, Lewis exists in a condition of intoxicated discovery. He reads Alain-Fournier's *Le Grand Meaulnes* and, later, Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, works whose central pre-occupations offer a subtle commentary on events. There is the city to absorb, and the friendship of Didier, the existentialist who is repairing the roof of the apartment block and who is willing to teach Lewis its secrets. There is also Lewis's *confusion and exhilaration* as he succumbs to the seduction of Valentina's blonde beauty.

THE WAY I FOUND HER
By Rose Tremain
Sinclair-Stevenson, £15.99
ISBN 1 85619 409 4

Here, the novel switches into a thrillerish mode. "I like mysteries," Lewis declares. "Unfinished knowledge ..." As the weeks pass, there is much that is unexplained: the tone of Valentina's new book, her past, Alice's sudden and prolonged absences, hints that a previous translator had died mysteriously, noises from the attic room next to Lewis's.

"It is too soon for you to learn everything," Valentina's mother warns Lewis, but is powerless to prevent his encounter with a trinity of violence, sex and death. Lewis has his own views. "Beauty," he states at the start of the story, "causes alteration ... Alteration may frequently result in some accident or other." Since he meets both beauty and knowledge in a terrible manner, the experience proves to be irredeemable.

Tremain: magical prose

This is a novel whose craft is, quite simply, magnificent. Its structures are forged in steel and yet they are built with the lightest of touches. The text is rich in allusion, irony and shimmering resonance. Images of flying, falling and of the bridge crowd Lewis's altered perception as he moves from one state to another. "Mum" turns into a stranger called Alice, the transition between sexual fantasy and the experience is made. His teenage appetite is transmuted into a stronger hunger and, thus, Lewis walks the roofs knowing that roofs are dangerous.

Lewis is not in the mould of the majority of adolescents. Either the reader decides to accept him, or abandon reading. Like the author, he or she must take a risk but will be repaid. *The Way I Found Her* is magical invention of page-turning suspense, of sadness, grief and passion, whose sure and delicate exposure of a sensibility flowering one hot Parisian summer teaches us the price of experience. Do not miss it.

Spirit of Ariel and Caliban

Robert Nye

AUDEN'S PROSE
Volume I: 1926-38
Edited by Edward Mendelson
Faber, £40
ISBN 0 571 17899 5

EVERYTHING in this book *moves towards the famous* line that W. H. Auden wrote in a New York dive in 1939 and *then cut out of his collected* poems: *We must love one another or die*. Whether the *poet is writing about sex or* politics, literature or religion, his constant theme is the need for love.

Edward Mendelson has assembled all the essays and reviews that Auden wrote during the years when he was living in England, and added to them the original versions of his two travel books, *Letters from Iceland* (with Louis MacNeice) and *Journey to a War* (with Christopher Isherwood). While the book sometimes resounds with that *preacher's loose immodest tone* which Auden denounced in himself, it is nevertheless unfailingly fascinating. The older Auden, after he went to America, posed so much as a Prospero that it is good to be reminded of him in the days when he was naturally half Ariel and half Caliban.

Ariel's voice is heard in such pieces as *Writing*, a contribution to a book for children: "People write in order to be read. They would like to be read by everybody, and for ever", and "Rhythm is what is expected by one word or another". There is an admirable directness and lack of pretension about such remarks. Caliban sounds in some of the criticism written for T. S. Eliot's magazine *The Criterion*, where Auden's usual fluency seems throttled by his desire to impress his editor.

On individual writers, Auden is always memorable, especially in the bits of letters quoted in the notes. Dylan Thomas is "exciting up to a point, but I wish I didn't feel the excitement was simply the exhilaration of being very tight". James Reeves is "like Graves but genuine not bogus Graves". As for Spender: "I find the spectacle of Stephen trying to be heterosexual acutely embarrassing."

Auden left instructions to his friends to burn all his letters, but on this evidence a volume of his correspondence must not be long delayed. It is notable that from about 1932, Auden gives as much weight to religious solutions as to *political ones*.

What is believed in seems at first less important to the *writer than the fact of faith*. Communism or Catholicism — he implies that either might *do. Isolation is the disease* and love the remedy. Gradually a shift comes, with an emphasis *on communion, the love-feast*, the idea that the early Christians "found real salvation from the lust for self-salvation" in a vision of agape. The progress the prose records is a pilgrim's progress.

And yet, what an artful pilgrim! Behind that face like a wedding cake left out in the rain there was always a mind like a can of queer worms. That line about love got rejected because it was not true enough, the final Auden insisting with perfect orthodoxy that we must love one another *and* die. The church lost a good bishop when Auden made up his mind to become a poet (at half-past three one afternoon in March, 1923 — see page 332).

What came After Ovid

Michael Hofmann

TALES FROM OVID
By Ted Hughes
Faber, £14.99
ISBN 0571 177 59 X

WHEN James Lasdun and I were compiling our book *After Ovid* — 60 stories from the *Metamorphoses*, done into English by 40 contemporary poets — I experienced a "Darien moment" of pure awe (Keats's sonnet, *On First Looking into Chapman's Homer*) when Ted Hughes's contributions arrived. This was literary history as I had never felt it, before or since.

Standing by the telephone to appease my sense of urgency, I read his 30 or 40 pages right off, and then scribbled a note urging him to go on and do an Ovid book all of his own. I claim no particular discernment for saying so, but to my great delight he's done it and it's even better than I first imagined.

The greatest and simplest and most mysterious thing about *Tales from Ovid* is just how comfortable Hughes is with the material. There is no stretching, no embarrassment, no fooling around for the gallery. It's as though Hughes found nothing alien or remote or intractible about Ovid at all: not the passing of 2,000 years, not the big mythological system, not the lists as long as your arm of dried-up rivers, hunting dogs or mutinous sailors. Hughes is as broad as Ovid and as subtle, *as violent* and as erotic, as elegant and as folksy — and often all at the same time. It is simply a beautiful match.

If there can be such a thing as *poème-fleuve* to match the *roman-fleuve*, it would have to be the *Metamorphoses*. Even excerpted, reduced to the 24 tales that most *caught* Hughes's imagination, this book is like a river: only water does justice to the *Metamorphoses*, these stories of the comminglings and forkings of the human and the divine, the human and the natural, the polytheistic and the psychological, the erotic and the catastrophic.

The metamorphoses have metamorphoses: either in the form of contributory tales-within-tales, or lesser stories backed up in a sort of dead arm, or just the little almost subliminal swirls of embellishment, often of a watery character. Newly arrived in the Underworld, Narcissus heads straight for the River Styx to get another look at himself; a pack of hunting dogs "flowed over the landscape"; Pygmalion's "brain swam" as he contemplates the naked form of Galatea.

HUGHES'S language is dynamic and forceful, but also quick on its feet. Without being self-advertisingly modern (like Lowell's *Imitations* or Christopher Logue's versions from Homer), he makes a series of well-judged borrowings from the worlds of technology, psychology and — very effectively — comic books: a god *may* "materialise", poison is "activated" by heat, Juno rises from her throne "Like a puff of smoke from a volcano".

His chosen medium for Ovid's hexameters is free verse. T. S. Eliot once said that no verse is free for the man *wanting to do a good job, but* up until now I had never felt the truth of that: there was always *something lazy or* corrupt or inadequate about the idea. Hughes's free verse is a thing of utter wonder: the play of letters and syllables — I think he works more by sound than by rhythm — is exquisitely controlled and thrilling to follow. The meaningless luxury poured on Tereus, whose mind is on incest: "The sun went down./ A royal banquet glittered and steamed./ The guests, replete, slept."

MIDAS'S ass's ears wrapped "in a turban superb/ As compensation could be." How the word "alive" is synthesized in another line about Pygmalion's Galatea: "Life-size, ivory, as if alive,/ Her perfect figure lay in his studio."

In the verse, you hear millennial echoes, ghosts of the alliterative half-line of Anglo-Saxon ("His arms are lean legs.") of Renaissance fluency ("As among vipers the elegance/Of a viper, or a *swan's grace among swans*.") of modern mixed diction ("Pan is the real thing — the *true voice/ Of the subatomic*.") of universal and unclassifiable lyric beauty: "Her *running redoubled her beauty*./ The ribbon-ties at her ankles/ Were the wing-tips of swallows./ The ribbon-ties at her knees/ Were the wing-tips of swifts."

Tales from Ovid is the best thing Hughes has done, the most musical English verse since Bunting, the greatest poem of Classical inspiration probably since the *Cantos*. It will live as one of the great works of our century.

Valiant Paladin of two world wars

Alistair Horne

UNDER TWO FLAGS
The Life of Major General Sir Edward Spears
By Max Egremont
Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £25
ISBN 0 297 81347 1

In August 1914, the British and French armies were reeling back in disarray before the Kaiser's onslaught. Few knew precisely what was happening or even where the respective armies were. One who did was a 28-year-old Lieutenant, temporary Captain of the cavalry, Edward Louis Spears, who was attached to General Lanrezac because of his fluency in French.

Spears's contribution in these darkest days of the First World War was reckoned then to have been "the most extraordinary week's work that any British subaltern has ever done"; in the words of the author of this admirable biography, Max Egremont, he had simply "saved the British Expeditionary Force."

Wounded four times in the course of his 1914-1918 liaison services, he was rated by *Winston Churchill as* "indeed a Paladin, worthy to rank with the truest knights of the great days of romance."

In the late Twenties, picked up by his champion to become a right-wing Tory MP, Spears published his own account of the war, entitled *Liaison 1914*. A work responding to French distortions of Britain's role, and therefore one with its own prejudicial bias, it nevertheless remains one of the great classics of war literature.

Cause of indigestion? De Gaulle lunches with Spears in 1944, after the flight from Bordeaux

In the debacle of 1940, *Spears was called back to* perform a similar function with the French, and here began a *stormy — and eventually disastrous* — relationship with de Gaulle. They were two men of brilliance, with vast egos and enormous chips on their shoulders. In his later years, *Spears liked to relate* how he had literally yanked the future leader of France aboard *the last plane leaving* Bordeaux; this version of the tale was hotly disputed by de Gaulle's entourage, and it is *diplomatically skirted by Max* Egremont.

Spears ended his military *career heading the British* mission to the French Levant, where he set himself up as a *kind of latter-day Lawrence*, espousing the cause of Arab liberation and gaining the lasting hatred of de Gaulle and the French.

Retired from the Army, and out of politics after a sad final split with Churchill, Spears went into business where he set himself up, Rhodes-like, at *the head of Ashanti Goldfields* — finally to be ousted by an even larger ego: Tiny *Rowlands*.

As a young author, I recall Spears in old age — gratefully — *as immensely generous* both of his time and hospitality. He provided invaluable material on France for three books, not only on the two world wars but also on the 1870 Siege of Paris, where his French Rafinesque family were key eye-witnesses. But he *was a damaged personality*, one that was plagued by self-doubt (not least by an *obsession about his supposed* Jewish background) and suspicion.

His bi-nationalism left him always the outsider, open to mistrust on both sides of the *manche*. (Typical of how the British cavalry of pre-1914 saw him was the reproof at his keeping a Gallic handkerchief up his sleeve: "no gentleman ever has anything up his sleeve." He often did.) In the Commons he was dubbed, not altogether affectionately, the "Member for Paris".

As well as writing an important slice of contemporary history, Max Egremont provides an excellent psychological study of this highly complex operator; his description of Spears' *menage à trois*, his elopement and then extraordinary unkindness to his brilliant (and physically courageous) American novelist wife, Mary Borden, shows him as the good fiction writer that he also is. I have long hoped that he might now turn his abundant talent to another of history's outstanding minor figures, this time *in the context* of Second World War liason. Sir John Wheeler Bennett — *almost as interesting as Louis* Spears, but a much nicer man.

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In the charity's fundraising week, **Ros Drinkwater** looks at how its role and profile is changing to meet the modern demands of Britain

In war and in peace, the group that brings comfort

On a 1991 visit to refugees in Croatia, Michael Whitlam, the then newly appointed Director-General of the British Red Cross, found himself under fire. Stuck in a bunker under mortar bombardment, his response was characteristic. Noting the hour, he decided to capitalise on the PR potential and using the wind-up field telephone, gave Radio 4's *Today* programme an impromptu live interview.

The origins of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement dates back to the battle of Solferino in 1859, when the horror of war so shocked Swiss businessman Jean Henri Dunant he determined to found a volunteer organisation based on his belief in humanitarianism, neutrality and impartiality. Today, with affiliates in 171 countries, both the name and symbol call up an image of dedicated volunteers in life-threatening conditions in international war zones.

The British Red Cross, with an annual income of more than £90 million, ranks sixth in financial terms, but with a presence in 46 countries, supplies the largest number of staff to the international movement. About 90,000 volunteers, plus 2,700 paid staff, care for people in crisis at home and abroad.

Each of the 86 UK branches has an agreed role within the statutory services' major incident plan, and deploy volunteers to provide pre-planned services such as transporting people away from a scene, as demonstrated at bomb threatened Aintree, and giving first aid and emotional support.

But despite more than a century of magnificent work, a 1991 market research study described the Red Cross as the "best known, least understood" humanitarian organisation, its public image that of a worthy, but old-fashioned movement, solid, but hardly exciting. Mr Whitlam was charged with the task of streamlining the organisation and of refocusing its role as an emergency service equipped to deal with the rapidly changing environment.

He says: "Worldwide, the Red Cross is highly respected, the emblem is still *the* protective emblem, more recognisable even than Coca-Cola or McDonald's, but it is vital to be relevant to what is happening now. Wars are happening differently. There are fewer wars between countries, more breakdowns within countries. So although a country may have signed the Geneva Convention, the different factions within the country don't know what you're talking about when you point out that killing women and children is against the Convention."

Work in the UK accounts for more than 50 per cent of the budget. Under Mr Whitlam, there has been a shift from offering a vast range of services, to a concentration on core services targeting the most vulnerable communities.

"It's not enough for someone to simply want to be a volunteer," Mr Whitlam says. "He or she has to be prepared to train, and train hard, to deliver the highest quality service.

"While we must be prepared for any emergency, we can't have people sitting around doing nothing. The worldwide movement has taken the strategic decision to work with the most vulnerable, both at home and overseas. Here in the UK we've identified five core services, Medical Loan, Transport and Escort, First Aid Duties, Health and Social Care, and Message and Tracing Services, that will ensure that when we're called upon to respond to a major event, we'll have the skills to deliver."

Essential service: volunteers in a specially equipped caravan offer food, clothing and practical advice after a fire

Staying cool under fire

TO THE public, the Red Cross's most prominent role is in administering first aid. At a recent Tina Turner concert, for example, 135 first-aiders, who were on site from dawn until the small hours, treated 1,000 people for complaints ranging from heat exhaustion and sprained ankles to problem pregnancies.

But first aid is merely a part of the Red Cross's work. Volunteers from the organisation play a crucial role in every national emergency, be it natural disasters or the evacuation of populations in the face of terrorist threat.

Martin Annis is the assistant emergency planning officer with special responsibility for Fire Victim Support, the Red Cross's newest emergency service.

"Though the Fire Service has a statutory responsibility to rescue people and put out fires, it is not within its brief to meet the needs of the victims," he says. "As with all major incidents, there is a lot of activity that seems to fall between everyone's area of responsibility.

"Previously much cherished systems of support do not exist as strongly as they did. Families are scattered and local communities are not always as supportive as they'd like to be, so people may be left very much to their own devices, not knowing where to turn for help."

The idea of Fire Victim Support was developed in America. Launched in Berkshire in 1993, it now operates in 11 English counties and there are plans to extend it to the rest of Britain by the end of the century.

"When the Fire Service arrives at a fire, firefighters decide what resources are needed," Mr Annis says. "In the case of distressed victims with no one to turn to, they may call out Red Cross volunteers who arrive in a specially adapted motor caravan equipped with clothing, mobile telephone, kitchen and shower, everything necessary to provide practical and emotional support in those all-important first few hours.

"Their job is to move the victims from the scene of the fire and provide support in a fairly private environment where the victims' needs can be met."

Volunteers undergo 60 hours of training and are selected on the basis of both their emotional and physical strength. In Mr Annis's view, the job calls for an extraordinary degree of dedication. "Most volunteers have ordinary day jobs — how many people would be prepared to spend all night helping fire victims and then go straight on to work in the morning?" he says.

"As the service is designed to complement existing statutory services, volunteers must also have a life that allows them to be on call from 6pm to 6am, at weekends and on bank holidays.

"Nor is it restricted to fires. At the recent Aintree bomb threat, first-aiders found themselves cut off from their vehicles, so two Fire Victim Support vans helped with the evacuation of 60,000 racegoers."

A measure of Fire Victim Support's success is the attitude of Fire Services. "Initially, and quite understandably, they were not quite sure what to make of it," Mr Annis says. "But in four years we've reached the point when we find them actually pressurising Red Cross branches saying, why haven't we got it here? What fire officers have said for years is that they dread the moment when their job is done and they have to leave distressed victims.

"Apart from providing comfort, volunteers advise on how to go about an insurance claim; should the house be boarded up; can precious possessions be salvaged? Even pets are looked after."

Princess wages war on mines

Royal support raises concern over civilians hurt by leftover weapons

When Diana, Princess of Wales, provoked controversy during her visit to Angola in January, the Red Cross was not displeased, *Pat Blair writes.*

Its international campaign for the banning of anti-personnel mines was already moving into higher gear. The Princess's public support for a ban helped to raise the profile, worldwide, of an issue that has led to misery for millions.

It is not the only international campaign pushed by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and supported by the British Red Cross. The use of children in war is another, as is the deliberate targeting of water-supply systems and the use of blinding weapons.

Long after conflicts cease, men, women and children are dying or being maimed by these indiscriminate explosive devices. Egypt has the most active mines — about 20 to 30 million left over from the Second World War.

For the Red Cross, the problem is massive, and growing. About 25 per cent of all its surgical work throughout the world is related to landmines.

Seventy one countries harbour active landmines. Civilian refugees tend to be most affected. There are an estimated nine million mines in the former Yugoslavia.

At its hospital in Quetta, Pakistan, the ICRC reports that 23.2 per cent of mine victims, mainly from Afghanistan, are children. Yet perhaps 85 per cent of child victims do not appear in the statistics. They die before they reach hospital.

Britain is among 155 countries supporting a call to outlaw these weapons. Western states have proposed that the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should negotiate a phased ban, starting with exports.

In December, more than 50 governments will meet in Ottawa, aiming to sign a treaty banning anti-personnel mines.

Diana, Princess of Wales, at a minefield in Angola

Geoffrey Dennis, international director of the British Red Cross, says: "Gradually, if you can raise the issue, get large countries to act, then you will begin to solve the problem. But it will take years."

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A helping hand for the vulnerable

Volunteers provide vital services that rarely make the headlines

THE British Red Cross has a primary role to be ready for any national emergency, be it armed conflict or natural disaster. Less well-known are the services providing short-term crisis care in ordinary communities, in particular those deemed to be specially vulnerable: inner-city and rundown areas; and isolated rural communities.

Every year, thousands of individuals in crisis benefit from services delivered by 90,000 trained volunteers in 85 branches in the UK.

The Transport and Escort Service meets the needs of those who cannot get out and about easily, or have difficulty using ordinary transport. Those with impaired mobility are collected from their homes by a volunteer. In the case of a long journey, a network system means the client can be put on a train by one branch, and met by another at the end of the journey.

Home From Hospital helps people to settle back into their own homes after hospital treatment. A volunteer is assigned to prepare the client's home, – help with bathing, shopping and meals, provide companionship and generally encourage confidence.

The Domiciliary Respite Care Service is designed to allow carers to take a short break from their responsibilities when they themselves fall ill, or simply need to recharge their batteries, while the Emergency Domiciliary Personal Care Service enables people to stay in their homes when the usual sources of support are unavailable.

The Therapeutic Beauty Care Service is unique. With emphasis on therapy rather than beauty, treatment can play a large part in aiding a patient's recuperation after an illness by helping their sense of well-being. Four thousand trained volunteers offer a range of services, from cosmetic camouflage to help those suffering from disfigurement, and beauty techniques for the blind, to relaxing massage.

In the case of someone who has recently been bereaved or divorced, a doctor may prescribe a course of treatment as an alternative to drugs.

For those of limited means, the supply of specialist equipment can be vital. Medical Loan has depots around the UK providing wheelchairs, bath seats, commodes, frames and walking sticks. Last December, John arrived at one such depot with a request. His wife Janet was terminally ill with ovarian cancer, the hospital had supplied a child's wheelchair that was totally unsuitable, could they help?

The volunteer told him the last one had gone out. Three days before Christmas, a wheelchair was returned early. Remembering John, the volunteer wheeled the chair round to his house. The delight on his face and that of his wife and children is something she will never forget.

On January 3, the chair was returned. Janet had died, aged 26. A message attached said: "Thank you for making our Christmas so happy. For the first time in six months we were able to go out as a family."

ROS DRINKWATER

CHARLIE FAWELL

Home help: the organisation offers support in a crisis

Pat Blair on the international role that cost nine delegates their lives last year

Danger on the front line

IT was impossible to cope with fitting intravenous drips to hundreds of the hospital's 2,000 patients. A dedicated team was required for a job that takes many medical students months to master.

Help was sought from among the refugees. Next day, two sisters volunteered for training. There was a drawback — the girls were aged only 12 and 13.

But that is how two children fleeing Cambodia's killing fields came to be going from bed to bed, inserting drips into adults and babies alike with a speed and expertise that amazed the British Red Cross doctor.

It was, says Dr Frank Ryding, an example of never underestimating local facilities, or the people. Refugees are not all peasants: many are professionally qualified. Dr Ryding says: "The people who ran away from the Khmer Rouge did so because they were highly educated."

Aid in action: supplies being distributed in Armenia in 1995

Dr Ryding, 48, an anaesthetist who has done 13 missions in 17 years — the war zones of Afghanistan, Thailand and Chechnya among them — has been astonished by the refugees with whom he has worked.

But there is also danger and depression. He has seen the surgeon operating beside him shot dead. In Berbera, northern Somalia, rebels shot half of his patients because they were from other tribes.

Geoffrey Dennis, international director of the British Red Cross, believes the dangers for its overseas "delegates" have grown. Last year, nine delegates died on active duty, six of them in Chechnya in December. Now, one person in each delegation is appointed solely to review security and be the one to blow the whistle to get out.

It is not only in conflicts and relief work that the British Red Cross international division is active, working through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the federation of national Red Cross or Red Crescent societies in 171 countries.

It currently has 74 British delegates in 32 countries and spends £30-£35 million a year on activities that include coordinating with other relief agencies, teaching soldiers and civilians the humanitarian rules of conflict, helping communities to return to normal, for example by restoring water-supply systems, and checking whether prisoners are detained under humane conditions.

Uniquely, it operates a message and tracing service to reunite families torn apart by war or catastrophe.

A multimillion campaign where every penny counts

Supporters come in all sizes, writes **Michael Prest**

If you see a dapper figure rattling a collecting tin outside Knightsbridge Tube station in London this week it may well be John Gray. As director of public affairs for the Red Cross, Mr Gray is in charge of the charity's fundraising and will be joining an army of 100,000 volunteers who hope to raise £2.5 million during the week.

Using the money efficiently is just as important as raising it. The Red Cross is in the throes of a massive reorganisation which Michael Whitlam, the Director General, believes will streamline its structure, bring it closer to supporters and enable it better to justify the claim to be the world's leading emergency service.

The change, which will convert 53 separate charities into one, is due for completion by the end of next year, with Mr Whitlam empowered to manage the whole organisation.

Making the change has not been easy. Agreement was needed from the branches, the Charity Commissioners, the Privy Council (because the Red Cross is a royal charter body), and the International Red Cross in Geneva. Despite natural trepidation among the charity's 2,700 staff, few redundancies are expected.

The reorganisation will cost £6 million and Mr Whitlam is confident it will more than pay for itself by the millennium.

With luck, income could nudge £100 million this year. Fundraising and donations contribute about a fifth of the total. Services, such as First Aid at Work, pull in about the same proportion, as do grants and fees. The other two big areas of income are legacies and the 360 Red Cross shops.

Mr Gray has established a network of corporate sponsors, who provide expertise, materials and contacts, as well as cash. There are eight of them — the aim is to have 12 — each providing at least £50,000 a year for three years. The companies include household names such as the supermarket chain Somerfield Stores, British Airways and Commercial Union.

The chairman of the corporate sponsors' group is Sir David Barnes, chief executive of Zeneca, the pharmaceuticals company spun off from ICI. Sir David says his company felt it had a responsibility to contribute to the community in other than directly commercial ways. The Red Cross fitted the bill because it was a well-established, non-political charity with a strong international and national presence.

The Red Cross is developing strategies for global fundraising activities and is the first charity to try to earn income from Interlotto, a lottery on the Internet run from Liechtenstein.

Whitlam: streamlining

Another idea is HelpAd, under which a company with space on its packaging lets a company with a complementary product advertise in that space, with the profits going to the Red Cross. Thus, Anchor Butter advertises on Hovis wrappers, for example. The Red Cross has signed up 70 companies in Britain and expects to earn £1 million from HelpAd this year. Now it wants to extend the idea to other countries.

All of this depends on healthy national and local roots. During its 125th year, the Red Cross set up the 125 Society, a collection of the well-connected, chaired by Angela Rippon, the broadcaster. Each member contributes at least £1,000 a year to the cause and is expected to introduce others.

But there is no substitute for the goodwill earned from the 1,200 gardens that will open in aid of the Red Cross in Britain this summer, or the innumerable fêtes and jumble sales up and down the land. In the increasingly high-powered world of fundraising, there remains a valued place for the volunteer tin-rattler.

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Swiss Re

Set a date and save a fortune

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

THE TRAVEL trade's gamble of putting millions of summer holidays for next year on sale before this season has begun has met with mixed success — and caused confusion among potential holidaymakers.

Most of the leading tour operators brought their 1998 brochures out at least six weeks earlier than normal in the hope that the post-election euphoria would fuel a holiday-buying boom.

Customers were bewildered by finding brochures in the travel agents for three seasons — this summer, next winter and next summer — all on display at once. Some of the smaller travel agents were openly hostile to the move.

The holiday firms were convinced that the "feel-good" factor would lead to a rush of sales and that the price cuts they have been able to offer because of the strong pound would encourage customers to book now for next year's summer holiday.

"Our research shows that the month of May will break all records for the sale of holidays," says a spokesman for Thomson Holidays. Up for grabs is the anticipated £21 billion which will be injected into the economy as a result of the sales of building society free shares and other windfalls due to be received by the public within the next few months. The tour operators believe between £1 billion and £3 billion of this will be spent on holidays, both for this year and next.

Although about 50,000 holidays were sold by travel agents over the Bank Holiday weekend and during the first half of this week, most had already been earmarked by regular customers who insist on returning to the same resort year after year.

Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agency chain, says that the early bookings have come in from families taking advantage of the discounts and free places for children.

Although most clients were demanding resorts across the Mediterranean, long-haul destinations such as the Dominican Republic and Cancún in Mexico were also proving particularly popular. Couples already drawing up their wedding plans for summer next year were among those booking early for the Dominican Republic which is now established as the fastest growing destination in the Caribbean.

But despite discounts of at least 10 per cent off all overseas holidays next summer, up to 25 per cent off selected short breaks and "kids go free" offers galore, the reaction from the bulk of customers has been lukewarm.

Going Places says that it took bookings worth £1 million by lunchtime last Friday, but these were mainly from those who had already indicated they would sign on the dotted line as soon as the brochures were published.

Thomson says it sold at least 20,000 holidays on the first day they went on sale. "We have never gone on sale this early before so it will be a number of weeks before we can tell how successful it has been," says a spokesman. "But by what we can judge so far, long-haul destinations have done quite well with holidays in the Dominican Republic, Florida and Mexico already being snapped up."

First Choice is concentrating on persuading customers to fly from regional airports and at "unsocial" hours by offering an increased discount of £25 per person if they travel at night.

But Thomas Cook says that things are still "relatively quiet" and expects the advanced bookings market for 1998 to be small.

Chris Kirker, chairman of the Association of Independent Tour Operators whose 150 members supply about 20 per cent of all summer package holidays, says that his members will wait until the middle of the summer "or even later" before putting their brochures on sale.

"When all the mass market operators are selling holidays which are indistinguishable from each other it is not surprising that they try to outdo each other by launching early," he says.

Exotic locations: couples are booking for 1998 weddings

Wise words find their mark

Compared with Virgin Airlines boss Richard Branson, Peter Legro is hardly a household name. But his airline, Transavia, is one of the most successful in Europe and he is President of the International Air Carrier Association.

In the industry he is much respected for his forthright opinions, which is why so many executives gathered to hear him speak to the Aviation Club in London last week. Some of what he said deserves a wider audience.

- Timekeeping: "The industry," he said, "spends vast sums of money advertising the wonders of flying in our metal tubes when we cannot even guarantee to stick to the timetables we write."

Fewer than 20 per cent of flights operate on time and "we are lucky that our passengers do not yet seem to worry about the odd 15 minutes". How long will that tolerance last?

> 'Airlines should not be seen as an easy tax target'

- Air traffic control: "The authorities will spend money on beautiful air-conditioned halls and lounges full of shops and casinos for the customers waiting for delayed aircraft.

"They want tourism, they want the investment, they want the control but they don't choose to devote the resources," he said.

The Greeks, he explained, are not ready to move into their new air traffic control centre, Italy will be short of 140 air traffic controllers and the French air traffic controllers' three-year pay deal is up for renewal this year — "Enjoy your summer."

- Noise: "The authorities on the one hand have given Schiphol a maximum operational capacity of some 44 million passengers a year but on the other hand it will run out of capacity at peak times next summer at only 25 million passengers because of a package of noise restrictions.

"And I bet those same environmentalists are touring the travel agencies looking for the cheapest fares possible for their holiday in the sun and wondering why we say we cannot afford to match the targets for noise."

- Newcomers: Banks are lending money to new startup "Flintstone" airlines who pay peanuts to use aircraft inherited from some other failed carrier. "They start flying in a blaze of publicity and then go bust leaving the rest of us with decimated revenues."

- Taxes: "Governments must not get the idea that the industry is an easy target." Spain has a new departure tax of 150 pesetas a head to provide better security equipment. But when Majorca opened its new terminal there was no room for the equipment. "What are we paying for?"

- Duty free: "If duty free is banned from European Union airports and flights it will put up the cost of holidays by around £10 a head."

- Airports: In many state-run airports "we still get lousy service from inept individuals working for chaotic management with outdated equipment".

- State aid: "In 1996 some $12 billion of state aid went into five carriers that between them control 35 per cent of Europe's air transport capacity. One third of our industry cannot or will not stand up by itself."

It was all good, powerful stuff from someone who clearly knows — and cares — both about the travel business and about his customers. Let us hope governments, as well as his colleagues, were listening.

Price-war truce may hit fares

BY STEVE KEENAN

THE COST of crossing the Channel is set to leap with a price-war truce and the removal of duty-free shopping in 1999, ferry operators say.

The number of ships operating out of Dover — which with the Tunnel account for 70 per cent of all cross Channel passengers — has fallen in 1997. And with approval expected shortly for the merger of P&O and Stena Line operations from Kent ports, more sailings will be cut, reducing capacity and pressure on fares.

Le Shuttle has raised 1997 summer prices for a standard return from £129 to £169 and five-day tickets from £69 to £109.

Stena says the average cost of a Dover-Calais return — including £1 day-trippers — tumbled from £130 in 1994 to just £50 last year.

Bill Dix, managing director of Le Shuttle, says: "Prices are clearly not sufficient and there will be more increases in 1998. When duty-free shopping goes in 1999, there will be fewer day trips and prices may have to go up by 50 per cent to recover the duty-free income."

The ending of tax-free goods will mean a huge loss for cross-Channel operators. One-third of all Dover ferry passengers are now day-trippers, says Stena. Brittany Ferries claims the figure is as high as 54 per cent.

Dover-based ferries generate half of all income from shopping, compared to just 20 per cent on routes from the south-west. Peter Stratton, P&O marketing director, says: "All companies will suffer terribly."

One report estimates 11 ferry routes from the UK will disappear in 1999, along with 25 ships. David Burdon, general sales manager of Stena Line, predicts that in future only six ships will operate out of Dover, compared with ten now.

Jumby Bay, off Antigua, whose owners claim that losses have forced them to close. About 200 British holidaymakers visit the island each year

Judge keeps 'paradise' open

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

ONE of the Caribbean's most exclusive and expensive island resorts has been ordered to remain open for business — even though it does not have any guests.

A judge ruled this week that the privately owned Jumby Bay, off Antigua, whose owners claim that heavy losses have forced them to close, must remain open until a bitter financial dispute with multimillionaire property owners has been resolved.

Meanwhile, dozens of guests, including many from Britain, have been offered alternative holidays on other Caribbean islands.

The Jumby Bay resort consists of a hotel complex and 38 cottages and suites hidden discreetly around the 300-acre island. There are also a few villas, which are mainly owned by wealthy Americans who can become members of the Jumby Bay Club and use the main hotel facilities free.

The Antiguan owners of the island claim they are losing so much money that they have no choice but to wind up the club and build about 60 more hotel villas to rent. However, some existing owners who rely on the hotel for their electricity claim that the closure is unnecessary. They have obtained an injunction preventing the club from being wound up.

The hotel was already shut down and guests offered alternative accommodation, but the judge ruled that no further action could be taken until the dispute was settled.

Although 11 British tour operators feature Jumby Bay in their brochures, only about 200 British holidaymakers visit the island each year.

The high cost — about £4,000 per person per week — does not deter the seriously rich. But Jumby Bay is not to everyone's taste.

Antigua suffered terribly from Hurricane Luis in 1995 and Jumby Bay itself was badly hit. The resort was seen by locals and the Government as a drawcard for the the world's wealthy. They were proud of the fact that such celebrities as George Harrison, Ralph Fiennes, Lord Sainsbury, Ken Follett, Meryl Streep, Tom Cruise and Arnold Schwarzenegger were regular visitors, and even boasted that Diana, Princess of Wales, was once turned away.

But this week tour operators such as Abercrombie & Kent, Elegant Resorts, Caribbean Connections and Caribtours told potential guests that they should go instead to the K Club on Barbuda, Mustique or Cap Jaluca on Anguilla.

Geoffrey Kent, chief executive of Abercrombie & Kent, regarded Jumby Bay as his favourite hideaway. First established as a holiday destination, it was formerly known as Long Island and was taken over by its present owners in 1987, who named it after a playful local spirit.

It takes ten minutes to reach the island by boat and, once there, visitors are surrounded with the ultimate in luxury. Egyptian cotton sheets on the beds, thousands of imported trees to provide shade, Michelin-star chefs and hand-picked staff who outnumber guests by three to one.

Central to the transient island community is the Estate House, an English sugar plantation manor that was built in the mid-1700s. Upstairs in the tastefully restored house is a bar known as The Library, where guests can order the most exotic cocktails or rare wines, while others choose to take tea on the veranda.

Water sports of all kinds are included in the price, as is the American game of six-wicket croquet.

There are rare birds, even rarer sheep, hawksbill turtles and some of the finest beaches in the world.

But although honeymooners especially love its privacy and solitude, others find it "artificial" and cut off from the real world.

Now it must remain in limbo at least until next week while the financial wrangle is resolved.

DIY tours beat the rip-off reps

ORGANISED holiday excursions can cost more than three times as much as going by yourself, according to *Holiday Which?*, the consumer magazine, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

Research shows that holidaymakers can be taken for an expensive ride if they book through a tour operator. An independent excursion from Paris to Versailles, for example, was £26 while an organised tour was £84.

Tour operators take a cut from the price of a trip laid on by a local agency, part of which gets passed on to the resort rep as commission. Reps maximise profits by selling excursions and warning visitors of the dangers of independent trips. But as tourists are often hurried around sights, sometimes without a guide, they may be better off going by themselves.

"It is very easy in many places to organise your own trip," says Kim Winter, managing editor of *Holiday Which?* "Local excursions can be good value as they may include food, drink and transport, but for longer trips the experience may well be more rewarding alone.

"Look at guide books, drop into the local tourist office, and pick a different day to the one all the tour operator groups use to avoid the crowds."

Dialysis on holidays

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

A TRAVEL company is offering breaks for patients with kidney disease at Butlin's Holiday Worlds. The Dialysis Travel Company (DTC) is pioneering tailor-made holidays for the 7,000 Britons who need to spend five hours on a machine, three times a week.

The company was created by David Topham, formerly chief technician at a hospital renal unit. His firm has holiday dialysis centres at Southcoast World in Bognor Regis and Funcoast World in Skegness. Three more at Somerwest World in Minehead, Starcoast World in Pwllheli, and Wonderwest World in Ayr are awaiting registration under the Nursing Homes Act.

The holidays cost the same as for any other Butlin's customer. The bill for dialysis is sent to the patient's local health authority.

Britons travelling to the Continent can arrange to get free care in state clinics. Outside the EU, dialysis can be arranged but the cost of between £170 and £200 a session is often prohibitive.

- *Dialysis Travel Company, 0181-949 7500*
- *National Kidney Federation, 6 Stanley Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S81 7HX. For list of holiday dialysis for patients in UK and main foreign resorts, send £1. For* Eurodial *booklet, covering Europe, send £2.*

UP AND AWAY

AVIATION fanatics can fly to Rome for the day on Alitalia for £99 next month. This compares with a normal economy day-return fare of £512. Those who go will have to be really keen on aircraft and airports because they will not leave Fiumicino airport.

They will be given a guided tour, including Alitalia's hangars, crew training, flight simulator and emergency procedures centre. Italiatours (0171-371 1114) is arranging the trips — on June 11 and 25, both Wednesdays.

■ IN AN effort to curb "obnoxious and drunken behaviour", Carnival Cruise Line has banned passengers under the age of 21 from all its ships unless on honeymoon or accompanied by someone over 25. And the 109,000-ton P&O liner, the *Grand Princess*, being built in Italy, will encourage cruisers to marry in the ship's dedicated wedding chapel.

■ MOTORISTS abroad can get caught out by some unusual laws, says the AA. In Ukraine and Romania, for example, it is illegal to drive a dirty car. In Gibraltar the use of full headlights is prohibited. It is against the law for motorcyclists to smoke while riding in the Czech Republic and in Germany motorists can be spot-fined for abusive language or derogatory signs.

■ GUIDE FRIDAY, the Stratford-upon-Avon-based open-top bus company, is converting its 140 old buses to the environmentally friendlier fuel LPG. The company, which operates vintage or classic buses, claims that the conversion make the buses 30 per cent quieter and their exhausts 70 per cent less polluting.

■ A NEW GUIDE to 600 French châteaux, farms and houses offering bed and breakfast accommodation is now on sale. It offers beneficial currency exchange rates, making prices about 20 per cent lower than they were last year. *Le B&B* is available from bookshops at £6.95.

■ AIR SERVICES between Moscow and Manchester, which ended when Aeroflot withdrew earlier this year, resume on July 1 when the privatised Russian airline Transaero introduces a twice-weekly, non-stop scheduled service. Fares will range from £295 for a full economy return to £950 for a business-class return.

■ THE WARM early spring weather brought a flood of interest in British short-break holidays — especially in the South East. Sunvil Holidays claims that bookings to the Isle of Wight, Kent and the New Forest have soared.

Day trips soar in popularity

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

A DAY out at one of Britain's numerous tourist attractions is proving irresistible to families who want to soak up history and culture as well as be entertained.

British Tourist Authority figures show that last year more than 60 per cent of the top tourist attractions reported an increase in visitors.

Legoland, which opened only last year, leapt from nowhere to eighth place in the league table of "paid for" attractions, with 1.4 million people paying up to £15 each to get in. But the most popular destination is still Blackpool Pleasure Beach, attracting 7.5 million people in 1996.

Overall, the number of visitors increased by 3 per cent, with industrial heritage sites such as old factories, farms and steam railways recording well over the average increase.

Alton Towers remains the most popular "paid for" attraction for the fifth year running, with 2.7 million visitors, followed by Madame Tussaud's, the Tower of London and Canterbury Cathedral. Canterbury is fourth in the table of cathedrals and churches, attracting 1.7 million people even though it charges £3 for admission. Westminster Abbey and York Minster, where entrance is free, attracted 2,500,000 and 2,200,000 respectively. The Tower of London, Windsor Castle and Edinburgh Castle were the most popular historic monuments.

Hampton Court, Kew and the Tropical World at Roundhay Park, Leeds, were the most popular gardens; the British Museum, the National Gallery and the Tate Gallery the favoured museums, and London, Chester and Edinburgh the most visited zoos.

The North Yorkshire Moors Railway, the Ffestiniog Railway and the Severn Valley Railway each attracted about 200,000 enthusiasts last year, while the top visitor attraction was Cadbury World at Birmingham, followed by the Old Blacksmith's Shop at Gretna Green.

David Quarmby, the chairman of the British Tourist Authority, says: "New attractions, such as the London Aquarium and Thackray's Medical Museum in Leeds, together with increased investment in established venues, should encourage more days out in 1997."

RICHARD KENDALL

Small wonder: Legoland has become the eighth most popular attraction in the UK

EQUESTRIANISM: BADMINTON RULE HANDS ADVANTAGE TO BRITISH RIDERS

King eyes crowning glory

By Jenny MacArthur

MARY KING, unbeaten in a three-day event since Burghley last year, heads the list of British riders attempting to halt the formidable overseas challenge at the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials, which begin today in Gloucestershire.

The event, the only four-star competition (the highest international rating) in the world this year, has attracted most of the leading riders, including Mark Todd, of New Zealand, the winner last year, and Bruce Davidson, of the United States, the winner in 1995.

With no obvious favourite — and at least a dozen of the 80 starters well capable of winning the £25,000 first prize — the event is one of the most open for years.

The British, whose last winner was Virginia Leng in 1993, have more than a sporting chance. Because of the record entry, foreign riders have been limited to one horse, while two of the leading British riders — Ian Stark and Leslie Law — are allowed two. The controversial ruling means that some of the sport's top horses, such as Todd's Broadcast News and Blyth Tait's Aspyring, are not among the starters.

King, who since August has won the Burghley, Blenheim and Saumur three-day events in addition to the British and Scottish Open championships, rides only one horse, Star Appeal, a 12-year-old gelding. They won at Burghley last year and Star Appeal excels in all three phases of the three-day event, but is capable of aberrations.

At Badminton last year, he fell at the first fence, and at Bramham, last June, he ran away when, according to King, "the brakes failed". King, who won in 1992 on King William, is likely to be among the leaders after the dressage. For the cross country on Saturday, her main concern is controlling the horse. "I need to get him settled enough to really hold him across country so I can ride him accurately," she said.

Stark, the winner in 1986 and 1988, starts as one of the British favourites with Lady Hartington's eye-catching Stanwick Ghost, an 11-year-old thoroughbred. He has had a superb spring, finishing runner-up at Brigstock and third at Belton — two of the main pre-Badminton outings — but he has not proved a lucky horse.

At his first Badminton attempt, in 1994, he fell at The Quarry. Last year, he led after the cross country but dropped to sixth after the showjumping. At the Olympic Games, he tripped coming out of the water. Stark, 43, who also rides Arakai, attributes his restored confidence in Stanwick Ghost to the trainer, Lars Sederholm, to whom he turned for help after Atlanta.

Karen Dixon, who suffered a bitter disappointment when her veteran campaigner, Get Smart, 17, was withdrawn last night after being held over in the first horse inspection, will now rely on Too Smart, her Olympic horse.

Too Smart, an 11-year-old gelding, is bold and athletic, but has yet to fulfil his potential. He finished 29th last year after a mistake at the Beaufort Staircase. In Atlanta, where he was in the Great Britain team that finished fifth, he was clear but slow. Dixon's main concern on Saturday will be holding a straight line through the more technical of Hugh Thomas's 31 fences.

King: optimistic

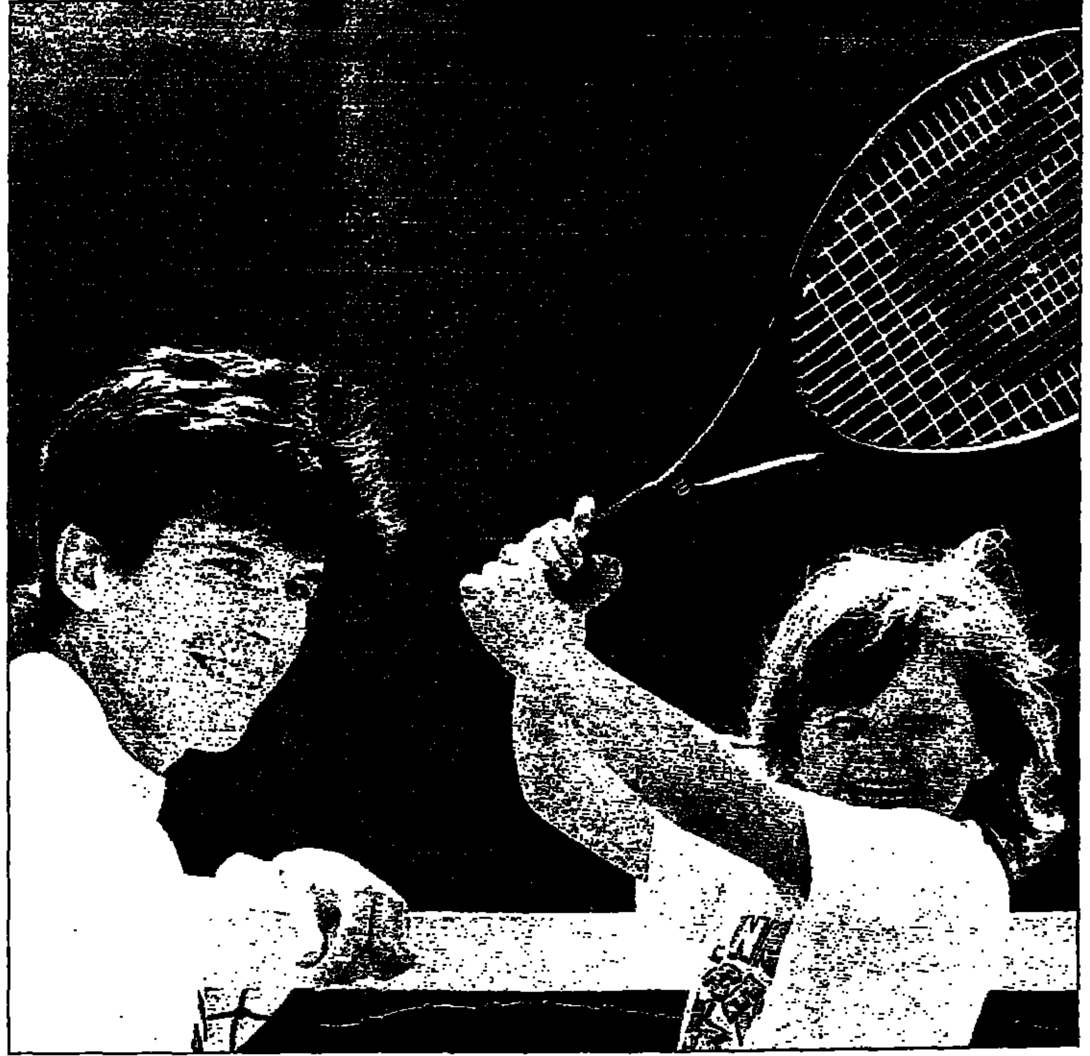
The other leading British contenders include Law with New Flavour, a talented Irish thoroughbred; William Fox-Pitt on his Olympic horse, Cosmopolitan, who is having his first attempt at a four-star event; and Pippa Funnell, with Bits and Pieces.

Even with one horse apiece, the foreign entry is daunting. The five New Zealand riders read like a who's who of eventing. Todd, a dual Olympic champion, rides Kayem, the winner of Saumur last year; Blyth Tait, the reigning Olympic champion, is on Chesterfield; Vaughn Jefferis, the world champion, is on Bounce; Andrew Nicholson has his Burghley runner-up, Cartoon; and Sally Clark has Squirrel Hill, on which she took silver behind Tait in Atlanta.

The Unites States has Karen O'Connor, on her Olympic team silver medal-winner, Biko; Dorothy Crowell, on her 1994 world silver medal-winner, Molokai; and Davidson, on his 1995 winner, Eagle Lion.

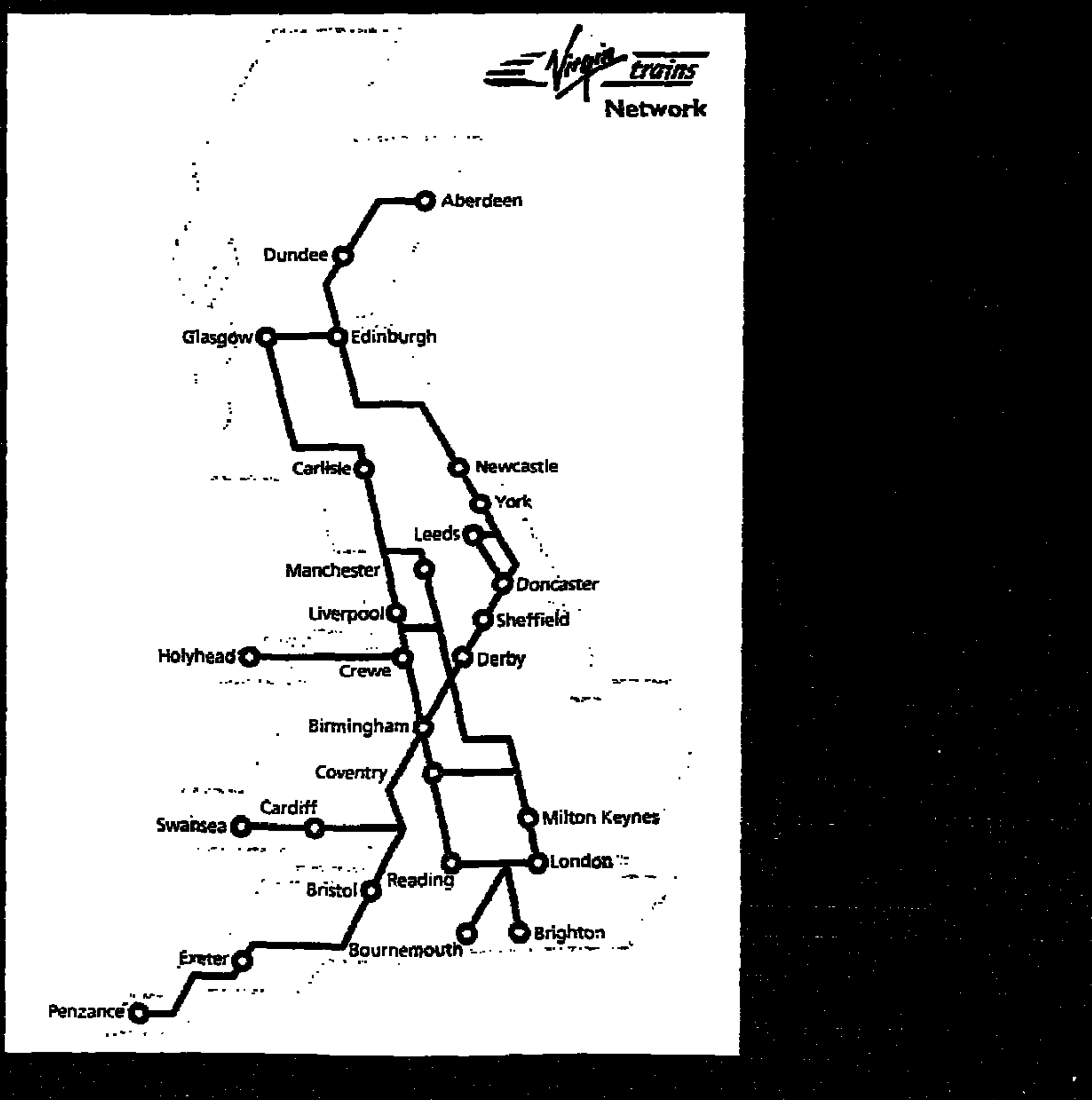
Add to that an Australia squad that includes two members of their Olympic gold medal-winning team — Phillip Dutton, on True Blue Girdwood, and Andrew Hoy, on Darien Powers — and the stage is set for one of the most competitive Badmintons in its 48-year history.

MARC ASPLAND


In full swing: Kate Rodgers benefited from Tim Henman's expertise at Queen's Club yesterday when the Lawn Tennis Association launched a £3.5 million programme to boost the British game

THE SUNDAY TIMES

VIRGIN TRAINS OFFER ARRIVING SUNDAY.



Don't miss The Sunday Times this Sunday for details.

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RUGBY UNION

Bayfield to miss England's tour

Bu David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

MARTIN BAYFIELD'S playing career is on hold once more. A pelvic condition has recurred and Bayfield, the Northampton lock, who has made only a handful of appearances for his club this season, has been forced to withdraw from the England tour to Argentina, which begins on May 18.

Since John Fowler, the Sale lock, is also expected to withdraw, the team management must find replacements for the engine-room with some speed. They have talked to Nigel Redman, the experienced Bath lock, and considered Dan Grewcock, of Coventry, and Richard West, of Richmond, though the latter has been afflicted by a knee injury in recent weeks.

Richmond, the winners of the second division, have announced plans to bolster both their playing squad and expand their overall sporting interests. They have signed Jason Wright, the Otago centre, along with a crop of promising youngsters in Craig Gillies, the Bath lock, Dominic Chapman, the Harlequins wing, and Lee Best, a full back from Durham. The signing of Barry Williams, the Neath hooker, is expected to be confirmed within days.

In addition, Craig Quinnell, the Wales utility forward, has extended his contract until 2001. Quinnell, however, will be out of action for two months after an operation on a torn tendon in his left knee and will be unavailable for Wales's summer tour of the United States and Canada.

Ashley Levett, the millionaire who became the club's owner a year ago, hopes to draw other sports around the hub provided by the successful rugby side.

He has bought a controlling interest in Richmond Jaguars, the ambitious third-division basketball team, and also hopes to bring an ice hockey team to the area.

Peter Glanville, the Gloucester flanker, has been named as club captain for next season. His election, as successor to Dave Sims, came after a vote by the players on Tuesday night. Richard Hill, the club's director of rugby, had put three names forward for their consideration.

☐ Fran Cotton, the manager of the British Lions, has emerged as president of a new Rugby Football Union (RFU) Reform Group. Ten days before the Lions set off for South Africa, Cotton has repeated his accusations that RFU officials misled the annual meeting last year and again called on Tony Hallett, its secretary, to resign.

The Reform Group says that, in the past 20 months, the RFU has: "Mismanaged the transition to open rugby ... misled the membership at general meetings ... sold out to BSkyB ... threatened the five nations' championship and sidelined the democratically elected executive committee chairman, Cliff Brittle." The group also alleges that the RFU has "neglected the sponsorship for clubs outside leagues one and two, leaving them financially exposed."

Erskine ignores injury to secure final reward

By Christopher Irvine

SALE, already deprived of Charlie Vyvyan, will be without John Fowler, another of their injured forwards, in the Pilkington Cup final against Leicester on Saturday, despite the efforts of a faith healer to repair Fowler's injury.

Fowler is still hoping to make the England tour of Argentina later this month, but damaged knee ligaments, which he sustained two weeks ago, had not recovered sufficiently for him to be considered yesterday for the XV for Twickenham.

Vyvyan broke an ankle in the 20-20 draw with Leicester in the Courage Clubs Championship last Saturday, which gave Leicester the last Heineken Cup place for next season at the expense of Sale.

In Vyvyan's absence, John Mitchell, the club's New Zealand director of rugby, switches to No 8. Neil Ashurst moves to blind-side flanker, Mitchell's normal theatre of operation. Despite a broken nose in the game against Leicester, Dave Erskine, Fowler's replacement, has put off an operation and will partner Dave Baldwin in the middle of the lineout.

Compared with Leicester, Sale's strength in depth is limited, but Mitchell last night dismissed suggestions that the draw against Leicester would affect his side on Saturday.

Mitchell said: "Saturday is a totally different game, a one-off situation. I believe that there will be much more emotion shed on this occasion. We were disappointed after last weekend, but this side has got a lot of spirit and intends to do very well.

"I just hope that the referee on Saturday will allow us to deliver quick ruck ball, which was not the case last Saturday. At the end of the day, the game is about scoring tries. It's my philosophy and the southern hemisphere philosophy, and for the game to improve in this part of the world, a ball from the ruck has to become quicker.

"One of Leicester's key attributes for a long time has been slowing it down, and I hope that is not allowed to occur this time."

The European Conference will comprise 32 teams next season, 16 from France, eight from England, four from Wales and one each from Ireland, Italy, Romania and Scotland. Romania will be represented by a Regional XV. The Heineken Cup will comprise four teams from England, France and Wales, three each from Ireland and Scotland and two from Italy.

SALE: J Mallinder (captain); D Rees, J Baxendell, A Hadley, T Beim; S Mannix, D Morris; P Winstanley, S Diamond, A Smith, N Ashurst, D Erskine, D Baldwin, D O'Grady, J Mitchell. Replacements: J O'Reilly, C Yates, A Morris, S Fletcher, L Hewson, M Driver.

RACING: OWNER BANKS ON ANOTHER ROODEYE DIVIDEND WITH ROYAL COURT IN ORMONDE STAKES

Sangster aims to scoop treble chance

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

ROBERT SANGSTER'S lifelong love affair with Chester could reach historic proportions today as he attempts to complete a clean sweep of the main prizes at the three-day meeting.

The runaway success of Top Cees in the Tote Chester Cup, which came 24 hours after Panama City had carried the Sangster silks to success in the Chester Vase, tees up the possibility of a unique treble with the well fancied Royal Court lining up for today's feature race, the Ormonde Stakes.

Born just down the road from the Roodeye, Sangster is passionate about the city and its tight oval racecourse and he is confident about rewriting the record books. "We will win," he said after Top Cees became the first horse since Sea Pigeon to win the Chester Cup a second time.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: TADEO
(3.40 Chester)
Next best: Royal Court
(3.10 Chester)

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

The winner Top Cees, patiently ridden by Fortune, is plum last as the field sets out on the final circuit of yesterday's Tote Chester Cup

Nicky Adams attempted to steal the race by kicking Etterby Park into a handsome lead shortly after halfway in the stamina-sapping handicap, but Jimmy Fortune and Top Cees picked up the leader turning for home and stormed clear to win by ten lengths.

"I thought they were going too fast on the very soft ground and my horse travels well. It was only a matter of steering him round there. I was probably the only one that got the trip. Everything else fell in heap at the three-furlong pole," Fortune said.

While the first Chester Cup victory by Top Cees, two years ago, was clouded in controversy, yesterday's victory represented a triumph over adversity — much of it self-inflicted by the seven-year-old gelding. His favourite occupation is dumping riders on their backsides before roaring off at speed over the horizon, with little regard to his own safety.

After picking up an injury last autumn, which prevented him running in the Cesarewitch, he performed his favourite trick on his first day back this spring and by the time he had been caught he had ricked a knee. "It has been a chapter of minor nightmares," Lynda Ramsden, trainer of Top Cees, said.

Jack Ramsden, husband of the trainer and one of the shrewdest backers in the land, had been convinced Top Cees would show improved form on soft ground. "Then I chickened out from having a bet by saying he was not certain to get the trip in soft ground. Pretty pathetic isn't it?" he said.

However, one suspects the master punter more than made up for the temporary lapse when Bishops Court justified favouritism with contemptuous ease in the Roodeye Handicap. The sprinter has been clocking exceptionally fast times on the Ramsden gallops and looks sure to win a decent prize this year.

Kyle Rhea was the only runner in the Cheshire Oaks not entered for the Oaks at Epsom — and duly hacked up by 11 lengths from the Sangster-owned Grapevine. She is likely to go for the Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Perfect Paradigm's effortless victory in the Cheshire Regiment Handicap produced the inevitable question as to whether the Derby entrant might line up against Entrepreneur. "You boys are getting desperate for something to take on Entrepreneur," John Gosden said. "I don't think Epsom would be his cup of tea. If he goes for a Derby, it is more likely to be of the Italian or Austrian variety."

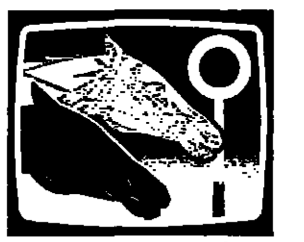
The search for a genuine challenger to the Derby favourite should centre on the Michael Seely Glasgow Stakes at York next week, which looks like being the best trial with the likes of Tanaasa, Apprehension and Shaya.

Jewel ready to sparkle

CHESTER
CHANNEL 4

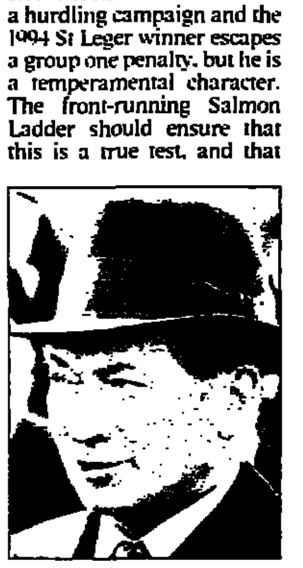
2.10: Gay Kelleway has high hopes for Be My Wish but her juveniles usually need their first run. Antonia's Double has recorded two respectable efforts but may not relish the soft ground. Bodfaridistinction has plenty of speed and should improve after a promising debut effort when fourth to Penniless at Thirsk but the well related **Jewel** is preferred. She was slowly away at Newmarket but kept on nicely to finish fifth behind Pacifica, and Richard Hannon's runners invariably improve after their debut.

2.40: Barnum Sands will find this going more to his liking after finishing fourth behind Fahris in the listed Feilden Stakes on fast ground at Newmarket. Teofilio, a length second to Hidden Meadow at York last October, lost his maiden tag with ease at Beverley two weeks ago and has been working nicely. However, Barry Hills loves winning this race and **Musalsal** looks a worthy favourite after beating Handsome Ridge in a fast-run race at Doncaster, the form of which has worked out well.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.10: Moonax will be fit after a hurdling campaign and the 1994 St Leger winner escapes a group one penalty, but he is a temperamental character. The front-running Salmon Ladder should ensure that this is a true test, and that will favour **Royal Court.** Peter Chapple-Hyam's lightly-raced half-brother to the 1992 Derby winner, Dr Devious, will relish a slog through the mud and is reportedly fit enough to make a winning reappearance. Election Day finished second to Oscar Schindler in this race last year and has produced two respectable efforts this term on unsuitably fast ground. He rates the main danger. Water Poet, switched from André Fabre to Godolphin, is bred to appreciate the mud and cannot be ruled out.



Hills: good record

3.40: Tadeo is not best in at the weights but saves his best for when the mud is flying. Mark Johnston's tough gelding has plenty of speed, an ideal draw and ran well here last season. That Man Again bounced back to near his best when fourth to Repertory from a moderate draw at Newbury 20 days ago, but all his wins have come on fast ground. Lynda Ramsden's Surprise Mission is still on a winning mark after two wins but is unproven on the soft. Pride Of Brixton, a course and distance winner, is well treated at the weights on his seasonal reappearance.

Richard Evans

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Chester

Going: soft

2.10 (1m 4f 66yd) 1, **PERFECT PARADIGM** (L Dettori, 11-8 fav); 2, **Flirting Around** (K Fallon, 11-2); 3, **Ihtiyati** (R Hills, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Burundi (6th), 8 Davoski, 9 Mister Pink (5th), 14 Ibn St James (4th). 7 ran. 2½l, 16l, ½l, 13l, 6l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £2.00; £1.50, £2.30. DF: £4.20. CSF: £8.23.

2.40 (5f 16yd) 1, **ONLY FOR GOLD** (K Darley, 4-1); 2, **Diligence** (T Quinn, 5-6 fav); 3, **Chunito** (J Reid, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Estopped (4th), 10 Flame Tower, 12 Newchargen (5th), 20 Smart Venture (6th). 7 ran. NR: Kolby. 1¼l, 3l, 6l, ¾l, 6l. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £3.50; £1.40, £1.50. DF: £2.60. CSF: £7.51.

3.10 (2m 2f 147yd) 1, **TOP CEES** (J Fortune, 11-2); 2, **Etterby Park** (N Adams, 8-1); 3, **Thaljanah** (S Sanders, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Canon Can (4th), 7-2 Bowcliffe Court, 6 Snow Princess, 10 The Flying Phantom, 11 Darajiq, 14 Old Rouvel (5th), 20 Upper Mount Clair, 33 Mazamet, 50 Warning Reef (6th). 12 ran. 10l, hd, 19l, 15l, 6l. Mrs J Ramsden at Thirsk. Tote: £6.50; £2.30, £2.40, £5.20. DF: £27.60. Trio: £174.80. CSF: £46.63. Tricast: £624.85.

3.45 (1m 3f 79yd) 1, **KYLE RHEA** (K Fallon, 3-4 fav); 2, **Grapevine** (J Reid, 8-1); 3, **Apache Star** (M Hills, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Desert Beauty (4th), 11-2 Dundel (5th). 5 ran. 11l, 25l, dist, dist. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £2.60; £1.60, £2.90. DF: £11.90. CSF: £17.47.

4.15 (6f 18yd) 1, **BISHOPS COURT** (J Fortune, 5-2 fav); 2, **Double-J** (W J O'Connor, 9-1); 3, **Samsung Spirit** (J Quinn, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Song Mist (4th), 13-2 John Emms (6th), 7 Night Flight, 8 Moonshiner, 12 Double-O, 14 West Ess Gin, 16 Sure Factors, 20 Big Ben, Loch-Hurn Lady, Nant Y Gamer (5th). 13 ran. NR: Hype Energy. 2l, hd, ¾l, 5l, 1½l. Mrs J Ramsden at Thirsk. Tote: £3.50; £1.90, £3.90, £3.50. DF: £33.00. Trio: £88.00. CSF: £26.27. Tricast: £196.72.

4.45 (7f 2yd) 1, **BEA'S RUBY** (J Weaver, 9-4); 2, **Radiancy** (Dean McKeown, 33-1); 3, **Sceptre Lady** (D Holland, 7-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Mystery Hill (5th), 13-2 Blushing Desert, 16 Mystique Air (5th), Yabint El Sultan (4th), 20 Highly Respected, Sweet Patoopie (6th), 25 Michah Queen. 10 ran. NR: Woodbeck. Nk, 11l, nk, 4l, 2l. A Bailey at Tarporley. Tote: £3.00; £1.10, £7.20, £1.50. DF: £66.30. Trio: £34.90. CSF: £79.43.

Jackpot: £2,967.40

Placepot: £53.50. **Quadpot: £24.00**

Chepstow

Going: good

2.25 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, **SONG OF THE SWORD** (M A Fitzgerald, 10-11 fav); 2, **Timidjar** (R Dunwoody, 11-2); 3, **Spring Campaign** (A P McCoy, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Dubai Dolly (5th), 14 Sassy Street (5th), 25 Santella Cape (f), 50 Romantic Warrior (ur), 66 Spencer Stallone (4th). 8 ran. 3l, 24l, dist. 1¼l. J Old at Wroughton. Tote: £2.20; £1.50, £1.70, £1.10. DF: £4.60. CSF: £5.89.

2.55 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, **ULTIMATE SMOOTHIE** (A P McCoy, 11-2); 2, **Alpha Leather** (Mr O McPhail, 7-1); 3, **Mr Poppleton** (L Harvey, 10-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Gorsaway (4th), 7 Blade Of Fortune (5th), 15-2 Royal Ruler, 16 Daydream Believer (6th), 50 Mulkey. 8 ran. 3l, 7l, ¾l, 15l, 3½l, 9l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £6.10; £1.60, £2.80, £1.40. DF: £67.60. CSF: £40.76. Tricast: £346.59.

3.25 (3m ch) 1, **FUNCHEON GALE** (D Morris, 7-2); 2, **Banntown Bill** (A P McCoy, 7-2); 3, **Black Church** (D O'Sullivan, 7-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 6 Pimberley Place (5th), 10 Don't Light Up (4th), 16 Nickle Joe (ur). 6 ran. 10l, 20l, 5l, 2½l. R Curtis at Epsom. Tote: £5.00; £1.90, £1.60. DF: £7.60. CSF: £14.22.

3.55 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, **HELLO ME MAN** (Mr J L Llewellyn, 9-2); 2, **Star Performer** (Mr G Shenkin, 10-1); 3, **Khazari** (L Harvey, 10-1); 4, **Look In The Mirror** (C Llewellyn, 12-1). ALSO RAN: Roc Age, 5-2 fav Fleet Cadet (6th), 5 Killing Time, 10 Powder Monkey (5th), Strike-A-Pose, 14 Prize Match, Provence, 16 Astrolabe, 20 Nautical George, 25 Saafi (su), 33 Madam Rose, Westcoast, 50 Calwalker. 17 ran. NR: Salcombe Harbour. ½l, 13l, 1¼l, 11l, 12l. B Llewellyn at Bargoed. Tote: £10.00; £1.00, £1.90, £3.00, £2.80. DF: £36.00. Trio: £46.00. CSF: £50.99. Tricast: £431.10.

4.30 (3m ch) 1, **PHAR TOO TOUCHY** (Mr N Harris, 8-11 fav); 2, **Savoy** (Captain A Ogden, 6-4); 3, **Archer** (Mr M Harris, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 16 Sultan's Son (4th). 4 ran. 4l, 19l, 17l. V Dartnall at Barnstaple. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.17.

5.00 (2m hdle) 1, **BALLINDOO** (Mr R Armson, 11-2); 2, **Apachee Flower** (Mr R Widger, 9-2); 3, **Stac-Pollaidh** (Mr R Wakley, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Country Store (5th), 11-2 Better Bythe Glass, Zingibar (4th), 8 Colwall, 33 Icantelya (6th). 9 ran. NR: Grosvenor. ¾l, 12l, 1½l, 11l. R Armson at Melbourne. Tote: £4.80; £1.40, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £19.00. Trio: £13.30. CSF: £28.62. Tricast: £130.61.

Placepot: £84.60. **Quadpot: £24.10**

Tuesday's late details

Doncaster

Going: good, good to soft in places

6.30 (7f) 1, **Fame Again** (J Fortune, 3-1 fav); 2, Somerton Boy (10-1); 3, Ochos Rios (14-1); 4, Nkapen Rocks (33-1). 21 ran. NR: Gain Line. Nk, 1l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £4.10; £1.20, £3.60, £2.50, £8.00. DF: £36.00. Trio: £224.90. CSF: £31.93. Tricast: £377.26.

7.00 (6f) 1, **Bint Albaadiya** (L Dettori, 13-8 fav); 2, The Lambton Worm (11-2); 3, Alpine Hideaway (12-1). 6 ran. NR: For The Present. 5l, 1l. M Stoute. Tote: £2.10; £1.20, £2.00. DF: £10.30. CSF: £10.45.

7.30 (1m 4f) 1, **Augustan** (K Fallon, 7-1); 2, Tappeto (12-1); 3, Shaffishayes (9-4 fav). 11 ran. Hd, 2½l. S Gollings. Tote: £6.50; £2.20, £5.30, £1.40. DF: £63.90. Trio: £78.60. CSF: £83.44. Tricast: £230.43.

8.00 (1m) 1, **Lord Eurolink** (T Quinn, 3-1); 2, Timessa (12-1); 3, Military (11-10 fav). 15 ran. NR: Mengaab, Prince Alex. Top 2½l, hd. J Dunlop. Tote: £4.00; £1.30, £2.90, £1.30. DF: £31.00. Trio: £8.10. CSF: £34.39.

8.30 (1m 2f 60yd) 1, **Step N Go** (J Fortune, 100-30 fav); 2, African Sun (25-1); 3, Roccarton (6-1); 4, Cuban Reef (9-1). 16 ran. NR: Champagne N Dreams, Durad, Father Dan Peppers. 1l, nk. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £4.60; £1.50, £11.30, £2.20, £2.90. DF: £360.80. Trio: £536.80. CSF: £96.05. Tricast: £484.69.

Placepot: £516.90 **Quadpot: £4.00**

Wincanton

Going: firm

6.45 (2m 6f hdle) 1, **Mr Strong Gale** (R Johnson, 30-100 fav); 2, Willows Roulette (7-2); 3, Carnival Clown (10-1). 3 ran. NR: Maid For Adventure. 2l, 16l. P Nicholls. Tote: £1.30. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.64.

7.15 (3m 5f ch) 1, **Clobracken Lad** (Mr G Baines, 15-8 jt-fav); 2, Link Copper (11-4); 3, Chism (15-8 jt-fav). 4 ran. NR: Noctanebo. 2l, 3l. Mrs J Swaffield. Tote: £2.60. DF: £6.00. CSF: £6.38.

7.45 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, **Doualago** (A P McCoy, 5-1); 2, James Pigg (13-2); 3, Frozen Drop (13-2). Drumcullen 13-8 fav. 7 ran. 1½l, dist. M Pipe. Tote: £4.90; £2.60, £2.70. DF: £10.00. CSF: £31.21.

8.15 (2m 6f hdle) 1, **Galatasori Jane** (L Cummins, 8-11 fav); 2, Sevso (5-4); 3, Chris Mail (11-1). 4 ran. NR: Country Tarquin. Nk, 16l. P Nicholls. Tote: £1.80. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.01.

Placepot: £855.30. **Quadpot: £17.60.**

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 Henry The Hawk. 2.30 Mamma's Boy. 3.00 All On. 3.30 Hutchies Lad. 4.05 Alezal. 4.35 Kathryn's Pet.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.00 CLYDE VALLEY HANDICAP
(£2,908: 5f 4yd) (11 runners)

1	(6)	0-00	STOLEN KISS 5 (B,D,F,S) M W Easterby 5-10-0	T Lucas	94
2	(2)	56-4	ANTITHESIS 21 (D,G) J Haldane 4-9-11	J Carroll	93
3	(9)	3384	TROPICAL BEACH 6 (CD,F,G) J Berry 4-9-8	C Lowther (7)	98
4	(7)	160-	TRIBAL MISCHIEF 181 (D,S) D Moffatt 3-9-1	Darren Moffatt (3)	90
5	(8)	0103	LORD SKY 4 (D,F,G,S) A Bailey 6-8-10	S Sanders	[illegible]
6	(1)	00-3	HENRY THE HAWK 16 (B,CD,S) M Dods 6-8-8	C Teague (3)	93
7	(10)	30-3	READY TEDDY 6 Miss L Perratt 4-8-7	O Urbina	96
8	(4)	0-06	TIBBI BLUES 4 (G) J Goldie 10-8-2	T Williams	88
9	(5)	0-62	SUNDAY MAIL TOO 6 (CD,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 5-7-12	N Kennedy	98
10	(3)	0-00	RAGTIME COWGIRL 4 (F) D Nolan 4-7-10	P Bradley (7)	90
11	(11)	3335	IMPISH 6 T Etherington 3-7-10	Dale Gibson	87

9-2 Tropical Beach, Henry The Hawk, 11-2 Lord Sky, 13-2 Ready Teddy, Sunday Mail Too, 8-1 Stolen Kiss, Antithesis, 10-1 others.

2.30 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(Qualifier 2-Y-O: £2,752: 5f 4yd) (6)

1	(3)		FLYING HIGH F Murphy 8-9	J Fanning	–
2	(4)	233	MAMMA'S BOY 10 (BF) J Berry 8-8	T E Durcan (5)	[illegible]
3	(5)		VICE PRESIDENTIAL T Etherington 8-8	J Carroll	–
4	(2)		JACMAR Miss L Perratt 8-5	O Urbina	–
5	(1)	2	SHARP CRACKER 7 M Johnston 8-3	T Williams	95
6	(6)	6	COSMIC CASE 5 J Goldie 8-0	S Sanders	–

13-8 Mamma's Boy, 5-2 Sharp Cracker, 7-2 Vice Presidential, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M W Easterby, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; W Jarvis, 3 from 12, 25.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 24 from 124, 19.4%; P Haslam, 21 from 110, 19.1%; M Johnston, 27 from 159, 17.0%; J Berry, 38 from 231, 16.5%.

JOCKEYS: T Williams, 11 winners from 76 rides, 14.5%; N Kennedy, 8 from 59, 13.6%; Darren Moffatt, 7 from 70, 10.0%. Only qualifiers

3.00 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE / JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP (£5,084: 1m 5f 9yd) (8)

1	(1)	-000	COIS NA FARRAIGE 4 Miss L Perratt 4-9-10	M Semple (7)	–
2	(6)	-020	KARISMA 20 D Smith 4-9-1	D Griffiths (3)	95
3	(3)	-003	ROSSEL 4 (G) P Monteith 4-9-0	J Carroll	97
4	(7)	3004	PHILMIST 4 (B,G) Miss L Perratt 5-8-4	N Kennedy	95
5	(8)	31/3	KINTAVI 17 (D,F) T Donnelly 7-8-3	J Fanning	98
6	(2)	0211	ALL ON 6 (F,G) J Hetherton 6-8-3 (5ex)	S Sanders	[illegible]
7	(5)	4206	LORD ADVOCATE 4 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Nolan 9-8-2	C Lowther (7)	91
8	(4)	2152	GOLDEN HADEER 42 (G,S) M Ryan 6-7-10	M Baird (3)	98

9-4 All On, 9-2 Kintavi, 11-2 Rossel, 7-1 Karisma, Golden Hadeer, 8-1 Philmist, 12-1 Cois Na Farraige, Lord Advocate.

3.30 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE SERIES HANDICAP (Amateurs: £2,626: 1m 65yd) (9)

1	(9)	0450	KINGCHIP BOY 8 (V,D,F,G) M Ryan 8-12-0	S Lavallin (4)	95
2	(5)	03-2	IN GOOD FAITH 122 (D,F,S) J J Quinn 5-11-3	T McCarthy	94
3	(2)	0-10	BRAMBLES WAY 7 (B,BF,F) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-1	N E Jones (4)	84
4	(4)	-625	CLUED UP 20 (V,F) P Evans 4-10-7	A Evans (4)	97
5	(6)	0500	WESTERN VENTURE 4 (F) R McKellar 4-9-10	D Dickenson (4)	95
6	(1)	-000	RATTLE 24 (B) D Nolan 4-9-7	T J Barry (4)	[illegible]
7	(3)	-004	HUTCHIES LADY 4 (CD,S) R McKellar 5-9-7	V Lukaniuk (4)	90
8	(8)	0-00	ROAR ON TOUR 10 (V,D,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-7	M H Naughton	97
9	(7)	6/0-	FRIENDLY KNIGHT 20J J Haldane 7-8-7	D McPhail (4)	–

11-4 Brambles Way, 7-2 In Good Faith, 4-1 Kingchip Boy, 5-1 Hutchies Lady, 13-2 Clued Up, 12-1 Rattle, Roar On Tour, 14-1 others

4.05 BELLSHILL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,944: 1m 65yd) (4)

1	(2)	2-2	ALEZAL 19 W Jarvis 9-0	S Sanders	[illegible]
2	(1)	2	NO GROUSING 21 P Haslam 9-0	O Urbina	98
3	(3)	500-	PALDOST 258 M Hammond 9-0	J Carroll	–
4	(4)	6-	TIPPERARY SUNSET 221 J J Quinn 9-0	Dale Gibson	–

4-6 Alezal, 5-2 No Grousing, 8-1 Paldost, 10-1 Tipperary Sunset.

4.35 EAGLESHAM LIMITED STAKES
(£2,556: 1m 4f 17yd) (5)

1	(2)	0-14	KATHRYN'S PET 22 (D,BF,S) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-11	S Copp (5)	98
2	(4)	005-	SIX CLERKS 13J J Fitzgerald 4-8-11	J Carroll	90
3	(3)	8/23	SUN MARK 28 Mrs A Swinbank 6-8-11	S Sanders	[illegible]
4	(5)	44-0	FANADIYR 4 J Goldie 5-8-11	R Havlin (3)	80
5	(1)	56-5	BRONZE MAQUETTE 9 (G) R Simpson 7-8-8	M Gallagher	82

7-4 Kathryn's Pet, 9-4 Sun Mark, 5-1 Six Clerks, 13-2 Fanadiyr, Bronze Maquette.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

2.20 Broctune Line. 2.50 GRATE TIMES (nap). 3.20 Blue Kite. 3.50 Corinchili. 4.25 Elton Ledger. 4.55 Water Garden.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.20 MAGNOLIA HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,277: 1m 4f) (16 runners)

1	403-	WESLEY'S LAD 185 J Neville 9-7	B Doyle	3
2	1621	AS-IS 24 (D,F,G) M Johnston 9-7	J Weaver	9
3	02-3	BONNE VILLE 31 (G) B Palling 9-5	T Sprake	2
4	1541	BROCTUNE LINE 31 (C,G) Mrs M Reveley 9-2	A Culhane	7
5	0-56	SHADED 14 J Wars 9-0	N Connorton	10
6	-552	GOOD DAY 69 C Thornton 9-0	D McKeown	13
7	0432	SPONDULICKS 7 B Baugh 8-11	R Perham	16
8	-045	WARRLIN 38 C Fairhurst 8-10	S Whitworth	15
9	-532	WOODLAND NYMPH 38 D Murray Smith 8-9	D R McCabe	4
10	00-6	DAWN SUMMIT 13 B Hanbury 8-9	J Stack	5
11	00-3	PHILOSOPHIC 16 (BF) M Prescott 8-7	G Duffield	1
12	00-3	RONQUISTA D'OR 38 G Ham 8-7	D Harrison	8
13	0360	SOLAR DAWN 45 M Johnston 8-5	O O'Donohoe (3)	11
14	50-0	BALLYDINERO 10 J H Wilson 8-0	M Henry (3)	14
15	0-03	SAM PEEB 24 R Fahey 7-10	D Wright	12
16	6-06	KICKONSUN 30 R Fahey 7-10	P Fessey (5)	6

4-1 As-Is, 9-2 Broctune Line, 6-1 Philosophic, 8-1 Woodland Nymph, 12-1 Wesley's Lad, Solar Dawn, Sam Peeb, 14-1 others

2.50 CAMELLIA CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,277, 1m) (14)

1	3-26	ITALIAN SYMPHONY 42 (B,BF) M Johnston 9-3	J Weaver	7
2	60	PURPLE MAIZE 12 J Akehurst 9-3	A Clark	4
3	0053	PENLOP 7 (B) B Meehan 9-1	B Doyle	8
4	200-	GRATE TIMES 201 (S) E Weymes 8-13	G Duffield	5
5	0-0	HIO NOD 10 M Camacho 8-13	N Connorton	11
6	0	PHOENIX PRINCESS 9 B McMahon 8-12	S Righton (7)	13
7	-405	DISTINCTIVE DREAM 10 (B) K Ivory 8-11	C Scally	1
8	6	OWDY 35 (B) Mrs N Macauley 8-11	S Webster	2
9	0-	PRINCE OF FORTUNE 329 M Blanshard 8-9	N Adams	3
10	0-04	NAIVASHA 7 (G) J Berry 8-8	P Fessey (5)	9
11	50-	MY BETSY 255 Miss S Hall 8-6	N Carlisle	12
12	6-06	MADAM LUCY 13 W Haigh 8-4	T Sprake	14
13	0-0	REDSPET 31 S Bowring 8-4	D McKeown	10
14	0400	ROCK FANTASY 35 C Murray 8-0	Nicola Howarth	6

7-2 Italian Symphony, 9-2 Penlop, 7-1 Naivasha, 8-1 Grate Times, Owdy, 10-1 Distinctive Dream, 12-1 My Betsy, Madam Lucy, 14-1 others.

3.20 TULIP MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,277: 5f) (12)

1	0	RUSSIAN ROMEO 7 B McMahon 8-8	G Duffield	8
2		ANGRY ALBERT C Smith 8-7	A Clark	7
3	0	BOLERO KID 12 M W Easterby 8-7	G Parkin (5)	3
4	4	THANKS KEITH 13 J J O'Neill 8-7	J Weaver	10
5	2	BLUE KITE 7 N Littmoden 8-6	T G McLaughlin	2
6		GLASS RIVER P Evans 8-5	A Culhane	12
7	6	GIFTED BAIRN 20 D Nicholls 8-4	Iona Wands (5)	4
8		ROYAL DREAM J Berry 8-2	P Fessey (5)	5
9		ROBERT'S DAUGHTER J Balding 8-1	N Carlisle	1
10	3	ROCK FROM THE SUN 24 W G M Turner 8-1	T Sprake	11
11	6	FRUNDIN 26 Mrs W Allen 7-13	L Newton	6
12		PICCOLO CATIVO J H Wilson 7-12	Angela Hartley (7)	9

7-4 Royal Dream, 11-2 Thanks Keith, Blue Kite, 8-1 Glass River, 10-1 Russian Romeo, Gifted Bairn, Rock From The Sun, 12-1 others.

3.50 FREESIA FILLIES HANDICAP
(£2,966: 5f) (13)

1	0-00	AL REET 9 (G,S) S Bowring 6-9-11	F Boyle (7)	13
2	0-02	LADY SHERIFF 7 (B,D,F,G) M W Easterby 6-9-9	G Parkin (5)	12
3	2300	NAPIER STAR 26 (V,C,D,G) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-7	S Webster	10
4	31-0	MAKE READY 10 (CD,G) J Neville 3-9-4	J Weaver	5
5	04-5	AMOEBA 7 (C,G) A Bailey 4-8-12	D Wright	8
6	05-0	PATHAZE 7 (D,F) N Bycroft 4-8-9	J Bramhill (5)	9
7	-404	CORINCHILI 10 G Margarson 3-8-7	M Henry (3)	11
8	0505	DELROB 9 (B,CD,F,G) D Haydn Jones 6-8-6	A Clark	1
9	0-05	SECRET MISS 17 (D,S) A P Jones 5-8-3	T Sprake	7
10	-602	RUNS IN THE FAMILY 9 (B,S) G McCourt 5-8-2	D Harrison	2
11	000-	FANCY CLANCY 203 Miss L Siddall 4-7-10	N Carlisle	3
12	000/	POSITIVE RESULT 706 R J Price 5-7-10	P Fessey (5)	6
13	04-0	NEFERTITI 52 R Morris 3-7-10	J O'Reilly	4

11-4 Lady Sheriff, 5-1 Runs In The Family, 13-2 Napier Star, 7-1 Amoeba, 8-1 Delrob, 10-1 Make Ready, Pathaze, 12-1 others

4.25 BEGONIA SELLING STAKES (£2,070: 6f) (14)

1	6245	BOLD ARISTOCRAT 7 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 6-9-10	F Lynch (3)	3
2	5305	DAHIYAH 42 (V,C,D,F,G) B Smart 6-9-10	A Daly (5)	1
3	4321	DESERT INVADER 7 (C,D,G,S) D Chapman 6-9-10	A Culhane	5
4	0012	ELTON LEDGER 80 (V,CD,BF,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-9-10	Emma O'Gorman	2
5	3050	SIR TASKER 17 (C,D,F,G) J L Harris 9-9-10	D McKeown	10
6	0	CADFORD JEWEL 27 W G M Turner 4-9-5	T Sprake	7
7	-523	HANNAH'S USHER 26 (C,D,BF,F,G) C Murray 5-9-5	Nicola Howarth	12
8		KOMASEPH 230J R Marvin 5-9-5	T G McLaughlin	9
9	4504	NORLING 56 (D,F,G) K Cunningham-Brown 7-9-5	J Weaver	14
10	40-0	SAMSOLOM 124 (D,F,G) M Sowersby 9-9-5	P Fessey (5)	6
11	2505	KLIPSPINGER 73 (B,CD,G) B Rothwell 4-9-0	M Fenton	13
12	4600	MARGARETROSE ANNA 30 B Baugh 5-9-0	R Perham	11
13	3410	ADVANCE REPRO 9 (B,CD,F,G) J Akehurst 3-8-9	G Duffield	8
14	4054	CHILLING 12 (B,D,G) N Tinkler 3-8-9	K Sked (7)	4

3-1 Desert Invader, 5-1 Elton Ledger, 7-1 Hannah's Usher, Chilling, 8-1 Norling, Advance Repro, 12-1 Bold Aristocrat, 14-1 others

4.55 PETUNIA HANDICAP (£3,278: 7f) (16)

1	0101	TAKHLID 10 (C,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 6-10-0 (6ex)	A Culhane	3
2	4360	SEA SPOUSE 10 (CD,G,S) M Blanshard 6-9-10	N Adams	7
3	05-4	SAXON BAY 15 K Cunningham-Brown 5-9-8	G Duffield	1
4	2000	LEIGH CROFTER 26 (B,CD,F,G,S) P Cundell 8-9-7	R Perham	16
5	3240	DAWALIB 8 (CD,F,G) D Haydn Jones 7-9-6	J Lowe	9
6	-000	LA VOLTA 19 (D,F) J Fitzgerald 4-9-5	F Lynch (3)	10
7	1526	SQUARE DEAL 12 (CD,G) S Bowring 6-9-4	S Webster	15
8	0003	JOHNNIE THE JOKER 12 (B,CD,F,G) J Leigh 6-9-3	P Fessey (5)	12
9	00-1	WATER GARDEN 31 (CD,G) G Wragg 3-9-3	A Clark	2
10	6004	SHONTAINE 6 (CD,F,G) M Johnston 4-9-0	J Weaver	6
11	-052	SWAN ISLAND 10 B Palling 3-8-11	T Sprake	5
12	3600	LADY SILK 6 (C,G,S) Miss J Craze 6-8-10	N Connorton	8
13	000-	LADYBOWER 297 (C,G) Lord Huntingdon 5-8-1	C Cogan (7)	14
14	00-4	MONEGHETTI 10 (C,D,G) J L Harris 6-7-11	N Carlisle	11
15	0-02	POKER PRINCESS 10 M Bell 3-7-10	R Mullen (5)	4
16	0405	DOWN THE YARD 50J (C,F,G) M Chapman 4-7-10	Iona Wands (5)	13

9-2 Water Garden, 7-1 Takhlid, Johnnie The Joker, 10-1 Sea Spouse, Dawalib, Shontaine, 14-1 Leigh Crofter, Square Deal, Swan Island, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss S Hall, 4 winners from 9 runners, 44.4%; G Wragg, 4 from 13, 30.8%; Mrs M Reveley, 25 from 96, 26.0%; M Johnston, 50 from 224, 22.3%; D Murray-Smith, 3 from 14, 21.4%; M Prescott, 19 from 89, 21.3%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 52 winners from 270 rides, 19.3%; Emma O'Gorman, 23 from 127, 18.1%; D Harrison, 22 from 136, 16.2%; G Parkin, 5 from 31, 16.1%; F Lynch, 17 from 128, 13.3%; S Webster, 15 from 129, 11.6%.

CHESTER

THUNDERER

2.10 Bodfaridistinction
2.40 Musalsal
3.10 Ela-Aristokrati
3.40 Tadeo
4.15 Gulf Shaadi
4.45 Rasayel

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.10 ELA-ARISTOKRATI

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.40 Teofilio. 3.10 ELECTION DAY (nap). 3.40 That Man Again.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: SOFT DRAW: 5F-7F 122YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.10 E B F SEFTON MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
C4
(2-Y-O: £6,970: 5f 16yd) (6 runners)

101	(6)	43	ANTONIA'S DOUBLE 20 (BF) (C Deuters) J Berry 8-11	K Darley	98
102	(2)		BE MY WISH (T Tran) Miss G Kelleway 8-11	R Cochrane	–
103	(1)	4	BODFARIDISTINCTION 20 (D Pickering) A Bailey 8-11	K Fallon	97
104	(5)	4	DEMOLITION JO 7 (J Pugh) P Evans 8-11	J Fortune	80
105	(4)	5	JEWEL 22 (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill	[illegible]
106	(3)		SKY RED (T Neill) M Bell 8-11	T Quinn	–

BETTING: 9-4 Antonia's Double, 3-1 Bodfaridistinction, 7-2 Jewel, 11-2 Sky Red, 13-2 Be My Wish, 10-1 Demolition Jo.

1996: ANTONIA'S CHOICE 8-11 K Darley (5-2) J Berry 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANTONIA'S DOUBLE about 1l 3rd of 7 to Penniless in novice at Thirsk (5f, good to firm) with BODFARIDISTINCTION about 1¾l 4th. DEMOLITION JO 9¼l 4th of 13 to One Singer in auction maiden at Wolverhampton (AW, 5f). JEWEL about 5l 5th of 9 to Pacifica in maiden at Newmarket (5f, good).
Selection: JEWEL

2.40 184TH YEAR OF THE DEE STAKES
C4
(Listed race: 3-Y-O: £24,790: 1m 2f 75yd) (4 runners)

201	(2)	1122-4	BARNUM SANDS 21 (F,S) (Aylesfield Farms) J Dunlop 8-8	T Quinn	93
202	(4)	41-52	CRYSTAL HEARTED 27 (F) (Mrs C Poland) H Candy 8-8	A McGlone	[illegible]
203	(3)	51-1	MUSALSAL 47 (F,G) (M al-Maktoum) B Hills 8-8	M Hills	98
204	(1)	22-1	TEOFILIO 14 (F) (Ecurie Pharos) D Loder 8-8	L Dettori	75

BETTING: 7-4 Teofilio, 9-4 Musalsal, 7-2 Crystal Hearted, 4-1 Barnum Sands

1996: PRIZE GIVING 8-8 M Hills (9-4 fav) G Wragg 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BARNUM SANDS 8l 4th to Fahris in listed race at Newmarket (1m 1f, good to firm). CRYSTAL HEARTED ½l 2nd to Sakari at Nottingham (1m, good to firm). MUSALSAL beat Handsome Ridge short-head at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). TEOFILIO beat Crystal Gold 4l in 11-runner maiden at Beverley (1m 100yd, good to firm)
Selection: MUSALSAL (nap)

3.10 ORMONDE STAKES
C4
(Group III: £29,520: 1m 5f 89yd) (9 runners)

301	(8)	2221-4	SALMON LADDER 19 (BF,F,G,S) (M Arbib) P Cole 5-9-0	T Quinn	95
302	(4)	1423-2	ELA-ARISTOKRATI 19 (F,G) (A Michael) M Tompkins 5-8-11	R Cochrane	[illegible]
303	(5)	104-53	ELECTION DAY 8 (D,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 5-8-11	K Darley	91
304	(7)	11432-	EVA LUNA 180 (F,G) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 5-8-11	K Fallon	97
305	(3)	16303-	FURTHER FLIGHT 181 (C,BF,F,G,S) (S W-Digby) B Hills 11-8-11	M Hills	85
306	(1)	3122-	MOONAX 70J (BF,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) B Hills 6-8-11	D Holland	94
307	(2)	1134-	ROYAL COURT 222 (G,S) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 4-8-11	J Reid	95
308	(9)	01100	WATER POET 235 (G) (Godolphin) S Bin Suroor 4-8-11	L Dettori	91
309	(6)	1111-1	SWEETNESS HERSELF 40 (G,S) (Mrs M Lavell) M Ryan 4-8-8	G Carter	80

BETTING: 3-1 Ela-Aristokrati, 7-2 Salmon Ladder, 6-1 Moonax, Royal Court, 7-1 Water Poet, 8-1 Eva Luna, 10-1 Election Day, 12-1 others.

1996: OSCAR SCHINDLER 4-8-11 M J Kinane (11-4) K Prendergast (Ire) 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

SALMON LADDER best effort beat Kutta ¾l in 12-runner group III St Simon Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, soft) on penultimate start, with EVA LUNA (3lb better off) 5¾l 3rd.
ELA-ARISTOKRATI ½l 2nd of 13 to Whitewater Affair in group III John Porter Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, good to firm) with SALMON LADDER about 5½l 4th and ELECTION DAY about 11½l 5th. ELECTION DAY 7l 3rd of 8 to Orchestra Stall in group III Sagaro Stakes at Ascot (2m, good to firm). EVA LUNA ¾l 2nd of 9 to Medaille Militaire in listed race at Doncaster (1m 4f, soft) with ELECTION DAY (2lb better off) 13¾l 4th.
MOONAX best effort beat Court Of Honour 1l in 4-runner conditions race at Haydock (1m 6f, good) Sep 96. SWEETNESS HERSELF beat Old Rouvel 1½l in conditions race at Haydock (2m, soft).
Selection: MOONAX

3.40 HILL DICKINSON WAYMAN-HALES RATED HANDICAP (£9,099: 5f 16yd) (9 runners)
C4

401	(7)	12380-	SPEED ON 221 (D,F) (P Deal) H Candy 4-9-7	C Rutter	91
402	(3)	01105-	TADEO 180 (D,F,G,S) (J Good) M Johnston 4-9-6	M Roberts	95
403	(5)	5100-2	SELHURSTPARK FLYER 15 (D,BF,F,G,S) J Berry 6-9-2	P Roberts (5)	[illegible]
404	(1)	6000-4	THAT MAN AGAIN 20 (D,F,G) (J Duffy) S Williams 5-8-8	K Darley	94
405	(6)	05002-	PRIDE OF BRIXTON 201 (CD,BF,G) (G Reed) C Thornton 4-8-7	Paul Eddery	93
406	(2)	0000-0	BOWDEN ROSE 30 (B,D,F,G) (G Bailey) M Blanshard 5-8-7	J Quinn	96
407	(9)	30-022	ZIGGY'S DANCER 7 (CD,BF,F,G) (J Barry) E Alston 6-8-6	K Fallon	98
408	(4)	1030-0	SWYNFORD DREAM 19 (D,F,G) (Qualitair Ltd) J Bottomley 4-8-5	L Dettori	94
409	(8)	00-311	SURPRISE MISSION 19 (D,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-4	Dane O'Neill	97

Long handicap: Surprise Mission 8-3

BETTING: 3-1 Ziggy's Dancer, 7-2 Surprise Mission, 4-1 Selhurstpark Flyer, 8-1 That Man Again, 8-1 Tadeo, 10-1 Speed On, 14-1 Pride Of Brixton, 16-1 others

1996: ANZIO 5-8-13 R Cochrane (6-1) Miss G Kelleway 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

SPEED ON best effort about 5l 3rd of 5 to Royal Applause in conditions race at Doncaster (6f, good to firm) Jul 96.
TADEO about 3l 5th of 16 to Astrac in listed race at Doncaster (6f, soft). SELHURSTPARK FLYER head 2nd of 10 to Lord Olivier in handicap at Epsom (6f, good). PRIDE OF BRIXTON 1¼l 2nd of 20 to Palacegate Touch in handicap at Catterick (5f, good). BOWDEN ROSE best effort 7½l 8th of 13 to Shanghai Girl in handicap at Doncaster (5f, good) on penultimate start, with SWYNFORD DREAM (5lb worse off) 9l 10th and TADEO (6lb worse off) 9½l 11th. ZIGGY'S DANCER 1½l 2nd of 10 to Robo Magic in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 5f).
Selection: SELHURSTPARK FLYER

4.15 WYNN HANDICAP (£9,280: 7f 122yd) (18 runners)

501	(18)	015-00	HIGHBORN 22 (CD,F,G) (Yorkshire R C) P Felgate 8-10-0	W Ryan	96
502	(14)	050-44	MY BEST VALENTINE 15 (F,G) (Valentines) J White 7-9-13	M Roberts	93
503	(12)	0400-0	DELTA SOLEIL 38 (D,F) (American Connection) P Harris 5-9-7	J Reid	92
504	(16)	53100-	SUE'S RETURN 215 (D,F,S) (A Morton) A Jarvis 5-9-2	W J O'Connor	93
505	(8)	1253-3	ALBERT THE BEAR 4 (C,F) (C Deuters) J Berry 4-9-2	K Darley	90
506	(7)	0000-4	SUALTACH 16 (F,G,S) (N Sweeney) R Hollinshead 4-9-1	L Dettori	93
507	(5)	000-01	KNOBBLEENEEZE 12 (V,C,D,F,G,S) M Channon 7-8-13	P P Murphy (5)	98
508	(6)	3100-0	ORANGE PLACE 15 (G,S) (G Archer) T Naughton 6-8-13	T Quinn	92
509	(13)	020-40	DUELLO 8 (F,S) (H Promotions) M Blanshard 6-8-11	J Quinn	95
510	(9)	1-1234	ELITE HOPE 76 (BF,G) (Elite Racing) N Tinkler 5-8-9	G Carter	98
511	(15)	25320-	OBERON'S DART 187 (G) (P Wragg) P Makin 4-8-8	J Fortune	92
512	(11)	0235-0	WENTBRIDGE LAD 2 (V,CD,F,G,S) (J Pugh) P Evans 7-8-5	G Hind	93
513	(3)	23334	SOOTY TERN 15 (D,F,G,S) (J Bradley) J Bradley 10-8-5	R Ffrench (5)	91
514	(2)	-01611	WALK THE BEAT 40 (F,G,S) (Ladyswood Racing) M Meade 7-8-4	D Sweeney (5)	97
515	(4)	3200-0	FLYING PENNANT 20 (F) (E Hayward) J Bradley 4-8-4	D Holland	94
516	(10)	562142	GULF SHAADI 5 (D,F,G) (Bobby Halliday) E Alston 5-8-3	S Drowne	98
517	(1)	040-20	IMPULSIVE AIR 8 (D,F,G) (T Scothern) E Weymes 5-8-3	L Charnock	[illegible]
518	(17)	4000-6	ERUPT 38 (S) (P Richardson) G Balding 4-8-3	A McGlone	92

BETTING: 5-1 Gulf Shaadi, 6-1 Albert The Bear, 7-1 Knobbleeneeze, 8-1 Highborn, 10-1 My Best Valentine, Delta Soleil, Sualtach, 20-1 others

1996: HIGHBORN 7-9-7 K Darley (15-2) P Felgate 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIGHBORN 4l 7th of 18 to Cheikamelia in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good).
MY BEST VALENTINE about 8l 4th of 10 to Lord Olivier in handicap at Epsom (6f, good) with ORANGE PLACE (3lb worse off) 20l 9th. SUE'S RETURN best effort beat Missile Toe head in 13-runner handicap at Yarmouth (1m, good to firm) with SOOTY TERN (3lb worse off) 12l 10th. KNOBBLEENEEZE beat Maryana 6l in 13-runner ladies handicap at Ripon (1m, good). DUELLO 9l 11th of 28 to Broughtons Turmoil in handicap at Ascot (1m, good to firm) with IMPULSIVE AIR 12l 13th. WALK THE BEAT beat Hannah's Usher head in 11-runner claimer at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f).
Selection: DUELLO

4.45 EATON HANDICAP (£7,340, 1m 4f) (13 runners)

601	(9)	22-120	SLIP JIG 85 (D,BF,G,S) (N Shields) K Burke 4-10-0	K Fallon	90
602	(5)	00-004	EAGLE CANYON 10 (D,F,G) (C Lane) B Hanbury 4-9-12	W Ryan	90
603	(3)	2140-3	TESSAJOE 15 (D,F,G) (Riley Ptrs) M Camacho 5-9-11	L Charnock	97
604	(10)	-22516	RASAYEL 9 (CD,BF,F,G) (Pextons Haulage) P Evans 7-9-11	J Fortune	94
605	(11)	040102	AT LIBERTY 10 (D,BF,F,G) (B Adams) R Hannon 5-9-10	Dane O'Neill	98
606	(2)	21132-	FULL THROTTLE 72J (D,F,G) (Lady Nelson) M Tompkins 4-9-8	T Quinn	90
607	(7)	141546	DANCING CAVALIER 9 (F,G) (Three R's) R Hollinshead 4-9-8	L Dettori	94
608	(6)	22-003	ALMUHTARAM 16 (B,F,G) (A Al-Midani) G Lewis 5-9-3	Paul Eddery	93
609	(1)	211221	RAFFLES ROOSTER 30 (D,G) (M Loatham) A Newcombe 5-9-3	Jo Hunnam (7)	94
610	(4)	2506-0	DAIRA 15 (D,G) (L Holliday) J Bethell 4-8-13	J Reid	97
611	(13)	212142	GALAPINO 22 (D,F,G) (N Dearman) Miss G Kelleway 4-8-13	G Bardwell	95
612	(12)	-20105	SUPER HIGH 12 (B,G) (C Hammond) P Howling 5-8-6	F Norton	[illegible]
613	(8)	140-12	THE BUTTERWICK KID 9 (D,F,G) (R Chambers) R Fahey 4-8-4	R Winston (7)	97

BETTING: 4-1 Galapino, 6-1 Rasayel, The Butterwick Kid, 7-1 Tessajoe, 8-1 Eagle Canyon, Dancing Cavalier, Almuhtaram, Raffles Rooster, 12-1 others

1996: ORINOCO RIVER 8-3 D Harrison (9-1) P Chapple-Hyam 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

SLIP JIG 2½l 7th of 9 to Norlem Motto in apprentice handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 4f). RASAYEL 10l 6th of 16 to Star Precision in handicap at Nottingham (1m 2f, good). FULL THROTTLE 5l 3rd of 8 to Prospero in conditions race at Leicester (1m 4f, good). DANCING CAVALIER best effort about 5¼l 5th of 12 to Canon Can in handicap at Newbury (2m, good to firm). ALMUHTARAM 2l 3rd of 11 to Rising Spray in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm). GALAPINO 1½l 2nd of 18 to Angus-G in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good) with AT LIBERTY (6lb better off) 14l 11th.
Selection: DANCING CAVALIER

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Loder	4	12	33.3	K Darley	13	65	20.0
J Dunlop	4	16	25.0	W Ryan	10	50	20.0
H Cecil	8	33	24.2	J Reid	9	46	19.6
P Chapple-Hyam	10	42	23.8	Paul Eddery	8	44	18.2
M Stoute	16	68	23.5	L Dettori	13	72	18.1

Eclipse plan

JOHN GOSDEN is planning to take the wraps off one-time classic hope Lord Of Men, who has not raced for nearly 20 months. The trainer has entered the four-year-old in the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown. "Lord Of Men has shown good, solid improvement," Gosden said.

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هكذا صدر الأصل

CRICKET: WESTMINSTER ABBEY WILL BE SETTING FOR MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DENIS COMPTON

Sussex bowlers bow to Ramprakash

By Michael Henderson

GRAHAM MORRIS

Ramprakash sweeps for four against the leg spin of Amer Khan, a former colleague, while scoring 145 against Sussex at Lord's yesterday

LORD'S (first day of four: Sussex won toss): Middlesex have made 337 for five wickets against Sussex

THE opening day of the championship season at Lord's should have been a time for looking forward. Instead, there was an opportunity to reflect on a life lived fully as Middlesex announced there would be a memorial service for Denis Compton, their greatest player, in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday, July 1.

Compton becomes only the third sportsman to be honoured in this way, after Sir Frank Worrell, the former captain of West Indies, and Booby Moore, captain of the England football team that won the World Cup in 1966.

Coming a week after the second Test against Australia at Lord's, the service will enable Compton's admirers from all over the world the chance to celebrate his coming hence and going hither.

It would be stretching things a bit to say that Compton's spirit was much in evidence yesterday, though Mark Ramprakash adorned an afternoon of pale sunlight by making 145, his second hundred of the season, and the 35th of his career.

Sussex, who chose to bowl on a relaid pitch towards the Grandstand, were made to pay for their folly as Middlesex batted with notable comfort through a day that lost only six overs to the rain.

It was a mystery why Peter Moores decided to give his bowlers a go. He may have thought there was some moisture in the pitch, but first-hand evidence suggested that there was not much, and at no time was the bat subservient to the ball.

Middlesex needed to bat watchfully in the first session, when they lost three wickets, but that is usually the case on the first morning of any match. A captain should always back his batsmen. Moores obviously does not.

All eyes were on Jacques Kallis, Middlesex's recent recruit from South Africa. When he first played for Western Province, there was excited talk of an exceptional teenager, who could nominate a stroke for any ball bowled to him and then play it. He looks a handsome player in an upright way, but he did not make the score that he should have done. Having got a start, he drove Newell's second ball to point, where Phillips, fielding as substitute for Drakes, took an easy catch.

Weekes had gone by then, leg-before to Jarvis, and Gatting was to go before lunch, chopping the ball into his stumps to give Amer Khan, the leg spinner, a wicket against the club that released him.

Like others in this Sussex team, Khan is relaunching his career and he can expect plenty of bowling this summer, if he retains his place.

By the end of the day, Moores had used nine bowlers, although, by the time that he had finished his one and only over, Greenfield had shown that he is not really a bowler at all.

It went for 15, including a six that Ramprakash pulled long and deep into the new Grandstand. Well as he played until he tickled Rao for a rather tame leg-side dismissal, it should be emphasised that Ramprakash will often play better for fewer runs.

He made 92 of his runs between lunch and tea, assisted by the doughty Brown, whose contribution to the Middlesex cause is frequently underplayed. The pair added 136 for the fourth wicket and, when Brown resumes this morning, he will be sniffing a hundred of his own.

He is the best sort of team man, and he made sure that the day did not belong exclusively to his stylish partner.

As for "Ramps", there is nothing to say that is not already known. He has always looked easy on the eye, and he drove and flicked off his legs with confidence.

In each of the two first-class innings that he has played this season, he has made hundreds, which means he is in good form; but he has long since passed the point when form will speak winningly on his behalf.

Curran's boldness pays off

By Pat Gibson

NORTHAMPTON: (first day of four: Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 129 for four wickets against Somerset

SNOW covered the County Ground just as play was about to resume after lunch, but it could not hide the dilemma facing Northamptonshire, a club with so many talented young batsmen that Alec Swann, the England Under-19 opener, cannot even get a game for the second team.

They know that they must find room in their championship side for such promising players as David Sales, Tim Walton, David Roberts and Swann, but that is going to be very difficult while someone like Kevin Curran keeps clumping the ball around.

Curran will be 38 by the end of the summer, but he was the Northamptonshire player of the year last season, with more than 1,000 runs at an average approaching 60, and he showed that he has no intention of stepping aside by hitting an undefeated 65 that contrasted sharply with everything going on around him.

Rob Bailey, the Northamptonshire captain, was in two minds when he won the toss. He had three seamers, including Mohammad Akram, the new signing from Pakistan, yet he chose to bat, probably because it was preferable to fielding on such a wintry day.

Somerset were not complaining. There was some grass on the pitch, and a degree of bounce from the pavilion end which Shine exploited to have Montgomerie caught at second slip and Bailey caught behind in his first five overs.

Curran's answer to the crisis was characteristic. He is a nervous starter and, apparently, thinks that No 4 is too high in the order for him. So he threw the bat from the start, dispatching Shine to the square-leg boundary, lifting him over gully for another four and taking two twos off his legs to make 12 off his first five balls.

Curran: undefeated 65

He then displayed his full repertoire. Not for Curran the drive and the cut, the pull and the hook favoured by most batsmen. He prefers the slash and the slice, the cuff and the club, and it worked wonderfully well.

He had made 35 out of 39 for the third wicket when Caddick, who had changed ends, found the same kind of lift as Shine had done to have Loye caught behind. When Mushtaq came on, Curran hit him for two fours in his first over to reach his fifty off 52 balls. It contained nine fours.

Penberthy helped Curran to add 51 before he played all round a ball from Caddick, operating round the wicket to him, but, just as Capel, another nearing the veteran stage, was threatening to play in the same vein as Curran, a huge bank of cloud carrying snow, then sleet, then rain, just about ended the day.

All that remained was for David Bates, the new Northampton groundsman, to cover the pitch and throw snowballs for his sheepdog, Ned, already a familiar sight at Wantage Road.

James warms to his work

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

HEADINGLEY (first day of four, Glamorgan won toss): Glamorgan have scored 213 for one wicket against Yorkshire

THIS was not a day to be judging championship aspirants. Headingley was dank, deserted and so cold that Darren Gough wore a ski hat under his cap and the morning drinks, served by a twelfth man in gloves, came out of a teapot.

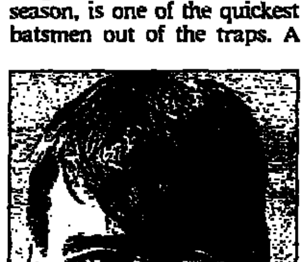
Only 28 intrepid souls paid to watch and the most animated debate of the day concerned a lunchtime storm that left the ground momentarily white, opinion being divided over whether it fell as hail or snow.

Not a welcoming environment, then, for Waqar Younis, and he was doubtless relieved to spend the opening day of his championship debut for Glamorgan in the dressing-room while the batsmen made telling use of the 66 overs possible. Steve James, who waited until late June for the first of his six centuries last season, made an earlier start this time with a chanceless 101 not out.

Despite the evidence of the scoreboard, the pitch is inclined to uneven bounce and permitted early grip for the spinners. Given improved weather, it could become difficult on later days. If Waqar does not bowl Yorkshire out, Robert Croft very well might.

Glamorgan were annihilating Warwickshire in their first championship fixture before rain deprived them of victory and the notion that they might now win the title is rather more than Welsh romanticism.

Confidence generated in these early weeks counts for much in the championship marathon, as Leicestershire demonstrated last year. Glamorgan exude optimism. They expect to make big scores and Hugh Morris, season after season, is one of the quickest batsmen out of the traps. A year ago, in this corresponding game, Yorkshire scored 316 on the opening day and did not lose a wicket. They won, despite a double-century from Morris, who made another against Warwickshire a fortnight ago. When Chris Silverwood overpitched his first ball, Morris drove it unerringly to the square boundary, a stroke declaring that he meant business.


James: chanceless century

Raymond Illingworth had just arrived in the press box, reminiscing perkily about his winter in Spain. Twelve months ago, he might have been taking mental notes. Realistically, Morris has played his last Test cricket, but there are still few better openers at this level and it was a surprising misjudgment when he drove at Silverwood and was caught behind.

His half-century had come from only 82 balls; the more prosaic James needed 151 for his, but its tenacity was significant. Gough was bowling at prudently reduced speed and Yorkshire were struggling, as much to keep warm as to take wickets. James, with his pragmatic method, cashed in. His second fifty came in an hour, from only 55 balls, and, when play ended in gloom, he had added 127 with Adrian Dale.

History is powerful spur for talent of Smith

By Richard Hobson

FENNER'S (first day of three; Cambridge University won toss): Essex, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 263 runs behind Cambridge University

OVER the past ten years they have grown used to chattering about the batting prowess of history students at Fenner's. Michael Atherton and John Crawley arrived amid of great expectations as under-graduates. Ed Smith has a reputation to make rather than confirm, but his progress borders on the meteoric.

By all criteria, Smith, 19, stands comparison with his illustrious predecessors. He scored a century on his first-class debut last season and, in eight appearances for Cambridge since, has failed just once to reach 50 in at least one innings.

In recording 72 against Essex yesterday, Smith took his aggregate to 415 from five innings this season and 934 in 15 in all. Atherton required 24 innings to complete his first 1,000 runs for the light blues; Crawley 28.

So much for figures. They can decieve and, while Atherton and Crawley adapted quickly to championship cricket with Lancashire, there is no certainty that Smith will do likewise when he joins Kent later in the season.

Without Ilott and Cowan, the Essex attack was some way off full strength. Both Danny Law and Andrew strayed off length too frequently and Smith took full advantage. Only in attempting to hook Andrew in the second over did he look vulnerable until he misread the length of a yorker from Law and was bowled.

It is to Smith's advantage that he features in his side that includes two further prospects in Anurag Singh and Will House. House drove rashly to second slip, but Singh, the captain and a member of the Warwickshire staff, batted sumptuously on a cold afternoon.

He added 82 for the third wicket with Smith during a period in which Essex relied upon the off spin of Such to peg the scoring rate back. Later, Singh found less refined support from Jones as he moved into three figures.

He had produced his best shot when he whipped Danny Wilson behind square for his twelfth boundary but fell to the next ball, a little further up, as he attempted to repeat that shot. He batted for 235 minutes in all.

Wilson, whose father played bass guitar in the group Hot Chocolate, had been kept out of the bowling attack on his first class debut until late in the innings. He showed signs of nervousness, but was not the only bowler who struggled with his line.

Law conceded 54 runs in his first 11 overs in which he struggled to find any fluency in his run up. However, a spell of four wickets for one run in ten balls, during which he proved altogether too brisk for the students, gave his overall figures a respectability that flattered.

Leicester's newcomer good foil to Mullally and Millns

By Simon Wilde

WORCESTER (first day of four; Worcestershire won toss): Worcestershire have scored 199 for six wickets against Leicestershire

THE weather has not been kind to Leicestershire in the early days of their defence of the championship — two days were lost in their first match at Grace Road and a succession of showers took them off yesterday — but in the brief time available they have played purposefully enough to suggest that the sceptics have underestimated their ability to retain the title.

Worcestershire spent most of yesterday firmly on the rack — before a feisty unbeaten sixth-wicket stand of 68 between Gavin Haynes, playing his first championship match since 1995, and Steve Rhodes restored their spirits — and once again it was Leicestershire's new-ball partnership of Millns and Mullally who put them there.

During last season's campaign this pair claimed 114 wickets between them and if Mullally is no longer required by England, they are likely to outstrip that tally this summer. Millns was the more accurate but both moved the ball around disconcertingly and, sustained by the frequent interruptions, they kept Worcestershire scraping along at barely two runs an over until after tea.

Mullally removed Weston to a catch at fine-leg off a top-edged pull — a sucker ball this, as the left-hander had hooked the previous delivery for six — and Millns had both Curtis and Hick leg-before.

When Hick was out — leaden-footed, as so often when he falls cheaply — Worcestershire were 36 for three and the onlooking England selector, Graham Gooch, must have harboured varying impressions of those he had come to watch. Hick has now scored 94 runs in seven innings this season.

Worcestershire fought hard to get themselves back into the match but were thwarted by two timely blows from Neil Johnson, Leicestershire's new overseas player. One of the reasons for doubting the county's ability to hold on to the championship is the fact that the inspirational Phil Simmons has been succeeded by an apparent nonentity, but on this showing Johnson does, at least, share his predecessor's happy knack of capturing key wickets.

With his first championship ball, Johnson had Moody caught behind attempting to evade a rising leg-side delivery and his 31st dispatched Spiring, Worcestershire's top scorer, who failed to control a cut and was well taken by Maddy at point.

These were significant blows. Moody is always a dangerous customer, and so, too, is Spiring, who played with all the vigour that was once Hick's hallmark. Spiring was the chief thorn in Leicestershire's side and, except for a simple let-off at square leg on six, had effortlessly progressed to 55 with a string of crisp off-side strokes.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Durham v Nottinghamshire

HARTLEPOOL (first day of four. Nottinghamshire won toss). Durham, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 55 runs behind Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

P R Pollard lbw b Walker	28
R T Robinson c Lewis b Walker	15
G F Archer c Speight b Walker	6
M P Dowman c Collingwood b Foster	19
*P Johnson b Walker	10
C M Tolley c Speight b Walker	54
†W M Noon lbw b Brown	11
K P Evans c Killeen b Walker	0
R T Bates lbw b Walker	0
M N Bowen lbw b Brown	4
P J Franks not out	0
Extras (lb 13, w 6, nb 4)	23
Total (49 overs)	170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-52, 3-63, 4-85, 5-99, 6-150, 7-151, 8-151, 9-166.

BOWLING: Brown 19-5-61-2, Killeen 6-3-8-0, Walker 17-5-56-7, Foster 6-0-32-1, Boiling 1-1-0-0

DURHAM: First Innings

J J B Lewis lbw b Bowen	26
P D Collingwood b Franks	6
J E Morris c Robinson b Tolley	27
M J Speak not out	20
*D C Boon not out	20
Extras (lb 6, w 4, nb 6)	16
Total (3 wkts, 41 overs)	115

*M P Speight, M J Foster, J Boiling, N Killeen, S J E Brown and A Walker to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-66, 3-70.

BOWLING: Evans 13-3-29-0; Franks 8-1-26-1; Bowen 12-4-30-1, Tolley 8-2-24-1

Bonus points: Durham 4 Nottinghamshire 1

Umpires: R Julian and J F Steele

Gloucestershire v Hampshire

BRISTOL (first day of four. Hampshire won toss): Hampshire have scored 221 for six wickets against Gloucestershire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

M L Hayden lbw b Smith	23
J S Laney c Hancock b Lawrence	19
*J P Stephenson c Russell b Smith	19
R A Smith lbw b Young	52
M Keech c Russell b Hancock	46
W S Kendall not out	33
†A N Aymes lbw b Smith	8
S D Udal not out	13
Extras (lb 2, w 2, nb 4)	8
Total (6 wkts, 81 overs)	221

A D Mascarenhas, C A Connor and S J Renshaw to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-63, 3-64, 4-147, 5-169, 6-195

BOWLING: Smith 21-7-42-3, Lawrence 15-1-70-1; Young 17-9-25-1; Ball 11-5-20-0; Alleyne 9-3-32-0; Hancock 8-2-30-1.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: A J Wright, N J Trainor, R J Cunliffe, M A Lynch, *M W Alleyne, S Young, †R C Russell, T H C Hancock, M C J Ball, D V Lawrence, A M Smith.

Bonus points: Gloucestershire 2 Hampshire 1

Umpires: G I Burgess and R A White

Middlesex v Sussex

LORD'S (first day of four; Sussex won toss): Middlesex have scored 337 for five wickets against Sussex

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

P N Weekes lbw b Jarvis	7
J H Kallis c sub b Newell	31
M R Ramprakash c Moores b Rao	145
*M W Gatting b Khan	23
J C Pooley b Robinson	30
†K R Brown not out	72
P E Wellings not out	4
Extras (b 3, lb 8, w 6, nb 8)	25
Total (5 wkts, 98 overs)	337

J P Hewitt, R L Johnson, A R C Fraser and P C R Tufnell to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-53, 3-96, 4-185, 5-321.

BOWLING: Jarvis 26-4-81-1; Drakes 6-1-21-0; Robinson 21-5-50-1, Newell 9-2-35-1; Khan 17-1-71-1; Greenfield 1-0-15-0, Athey 6-0-17-0; Peirce 7-0-22-0; Rao 5-1-14-1

SUSSEX: M T E Peirce, K Greenfield, N R Taylor, C W J Athey, K Newell, R K Rao, *†P Moores, V C Drakes, P W Jarvis, M A Robinson, A A Khan

Bonus points: Middlesex 3 Sussex 2

Umpires: V A Holder and J H Hampshire

Northamptonshire v Somerset

NORTHAMPTON (first day of four; Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 126 for four wickets against Somerset

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

R R Montgomerie c Trescothick b Shine	0
M B Loye c Bowler b Caddick	18
*R J Bailey c Turner b Shine	8
K M Curran not out	65
A L Penberthy b Caddick	19
D J Capel not out	7
Extras (lb 4, nb 5)	9
Total (4 wkts, 32 overs)	126

J N Snape, †D Ripley, J P Taylor, S A J Boswell and Mohammad Akram to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-25, 3-64, 4-118.

BOWLING: Caddick 13-3-43-2; Shine 7-2-29-2; Rose 8-3-29-0; Ahmed 4-1-21-0

SOMERSET: M N Lathwell, M Burns, *P D Bowler, M E Trescothick, P C L Holloway, †R J Turner, G D Rose, J I D Kerr, Mushtaq Ahmed, A R Caddick, K J Shine.

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 0 Somerset 1

Umpires: T E Jesty and B J Meyer.

Worcestershire v Leicestershire

WORCESTER (first day of four; Worcestershire won toss). Worcestershire have scored 199 for six wickets against Leicestershire

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

T S Curtis lbw b Millns	4
W P C Weston c Millns b Mullally	11
G A Hick lbw b Millns	9
K R Spiring c Maddy b Johnson	55
*T M Moody c Nixon b Johnson	8
V S Solanki c Brimson b Mullally	24
G R Haynes not out	16
†S J Rhodes not out	37
Extras (b 6, lb 7, w 4, nb 18)	35
Total (6 wkts, 71 overs)	199

P J Newport, A Sheriyar and R J Chapman to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-22, 3-36, 4-60, 5-109, 6-131

BOWLING: Millns 18-6-52-2; Mullally 19-2-60-2; Brimson 8-4-20-0; Johnson 13-3-31-2; Wells 6-3-10-0; Dakin 6-1-8-0; Maddy 1-0-5-0

LEICESTERSHIRE: D L Maddy, I J Sutcliffe, G I Macmillan, *V J Wells, A Habib, N C Johnson, †P A Nixon, D J Millns, J M Dakin, A D Mullally, M T Brimson.

Bonus points: Worcestershire 0 Leicestershire 2

Umpires: J W Holder and K E Palmer.

Yorkshire v Glamorgan

HEADINGLEY (first day of four; Glamorgan won toss): Glamorgan have scored 213 for one wicket against Yorkshire

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James not out	101
H Morris c Blakey b Silverwood	55
A Dale not out	36
Extras (b 4, lb 7, w 2, nb 8)	21
Total (1 wkt, 66 overs)	213

*M P Maynard, P A Cottey, G P Butcher, †A D Shaw, R D B Croft, Waqar Younis, S L Watkin and S D Thomas to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-86.

BOWLING: Gough 10-5-25-0; Silverwood 13-3-44-1; Hamilton 13-2-49-0; White 9-0-34-0; Stemp 15-2-35-0; Vaughan 4-2-6-0; McGrath 2-0-9-0

YORKSHIRE: M P Vaughan, A McGrath, *D Byas, D S Lehmann, B Parker, C White, †R J Blakey, D Gough, G M Hamilton, C E W Silverwood, R D Stemp.

Bonus points: Yorkshire 0 Glamorgan 1

Umpires: B Leadbeater and D R Shepherd.

NO PLAY YESTERDAY: Derby: Derbyshire v Surrey.

University matches

Cambridge University v Essex

FENNER'S (first day of three; Cambridge University won toss): Essex, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 263 runs behind Cambridge University

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings

J Ratledge c Prichard b Such	12
E T Smith b Law	72
Q Hughes c Hibbert b Such	9
*A Singh b Wilson	134
W J House c Hibbert b Law	5
R O Jones lbw b Law	0
M W Dawson c Hibbert b Law	0
†D R H Churton lbw b Law	0
P S Jones c Peters b Grayson	36
J W Freeth not out	0
Extras (lb 6, nb 12)	18
Total (9 wkts dec)	285

E How did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-65, 3-147, 4-177, 5-177, 6-177, 7-179, 8-268, 9-285.

BOWLING: Law 19-1-93-5; Andrew 17-2-76-0; Such 28-12-41-2; Grayson 18-7-33-1; Wilson 4.3-0-36-1.

ESSEX: First Innings

*P J Prichard not out	8
D D J Robinson not out	11
Extras (lb 1, w 2)	3
Total (no wkt)	22

D R Law, S D Peters, A J E Hibbert, A P Grayson, †B J Hyam, D G Wilson, G R Napier, S J W Andrew and P M Such to bat

BOWLING: P S Jones 3-0-13-0; How 2-0-8-0

Umpires: B Dudleston and M K Reed.

Oxford University v Warwickshire

THE PARKS (first day of three; Oxford University won toss): Oxford University have scored 129 all out against Warwickshire

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings

R D Hudson b Welch	5
*M A Wagh c Ostler b Welch	4
C G R Lightfoot b Welch	8
B W Byrne lbw b Brown	17
J A G Fulton st Frost b Giles	13
P G Morgan lbw b Brown	4
C Patel c Hemp b Giles	9
†A P Scrini lbw b Edmond	1
L G Buchanan c Frost b Edmond	1
J M M Averis not out	36
C M Battarbee c Brown b Welch	8
Extras (b 5, lb 5, w 6, nb 6)	23
Total	129

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-19, 3-22, 4-51, 5-61, 6-62, 7-66, 8-70, 9-92.

BOWLING: Welch 10.3-0-39-4; Brown 8-4-8-2; Giles 21-8-44-2; Edmond 9-2-26-2; Khan 1-1-0-0.

WARWICKSHIRE: *N V Knight, W G Khan, D L Hemp, D P Ostler, M J Powell, D R Brown, G Welch, †T Frost, N M K Smith, A F Giles, M D Edmond.

Umpires: A G T Whitehead and P Willey.

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CRICKET

Walker on his Sunday best for Durham

By Ivo Tennant

HARTLEPOOL (first day of four; Nottinghamshire won toss): Durham, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 55 runs behind Nottinghamshire.

WHEN, two years ago, Durham last won a championship match, Nottinghamshire were their opponents. If these two counties did possess any ambition last season, it was simply to avoid finishing bottom of the table. The most prominent performance yesterday, seven for 56, came from Alan Walker, a medium-paced bowler who expected to play only on Sundays this season, and that was indicative of how lacking they are in top-class bowling.

When David Boon came to peruse the Durham players that he was inheriting, he must have wondered what Walker was doing still on the staff. After all, this is a bowler who last season, when he was fully fit, took two championship wickets at a cost of 277 runs and who has a mere 41 wickets from his three years with the county. Where Boon comes from, they do not think much of such figures.

Mohammad Azharuddin's 17-year career could be over as the India selectors ignored *him for the Independence* Cup, the four-nation limited-overs tournament, starting tomorrow. Azharuddin, 33, had *a poor run on the West Indies* tour, where his top score was 40. He is the only Indian to have scored more than 6,000 *runs in one-day cricket.*

Walker played yesterday, not on account of injuries to others, but on merit. If that says something about the paucity of talent in Durham, it also tells of his resolve — and of some third-rate batting.

In years gone by, Robinson would have stayed in all day on this kind of slow pitch against a medium-paced attack that obtained little movement. It would not have been pretty, but it would have been effective. Now, Robinson lofted that familiar chip off his legs straight to the fielder at square leg. From then on, it was a succession of departing batsmen. Archer was caught at the wicket, pushing forward, Pollard leg-before, Johnson bowled chopping on to his leg stump. Walker was gaining a little movement off the seam.

When Dowman was caught at the wicket off a skyer, Collingwood running back from first slip and holding a decent catch, Nottinghamshire were 99 for five. Foster, another of medium pace, was the bowler. Two of the next three wickets were taken by Walker, which meant that career-best figures were within his compass. His collection of wickets in the past three years looks even more skewwhiff considering that 14 came in one match against Essex in 1995, including eight for 118 and Mark Waugh's wicket in both innings.

Brown, though, removed two tailenders and there were *runs for Tolley, of whom it* could also be said that he is fortunate still to be in the game. Like Walker, he is with *a second county and, even* taking into account that cricketers of his age in England are often reaching their peak at a *time when those abroad are* contemplating retirement, is unlikely to improve further.

He will be 30 this year; Walker, whose figures were the best by a Durham bowler in Durham, is soon to be 35. Still, without Tolley's contribution yesterday, Nottinghamshire's innings would have been a sorry picture. His half century came off 66 balls and included 11 fours. He was finally drawn into a drive by Walker and was caught.

This was not Tolley's final contribution. With his first ball, he took the wicket of Morris. By then, Collingwood had been bowled shouldering arms and Lewis had gone leg-before to Bowen.

It is strange to think that this is a batsman whom Essex considered to have a better future in first-class cricket than Nick Knight. Even the best-run counties can botch their thinking.

Lawrence shows no signs of fatigue as he leads the Gloucestershire attack on his return to first-class cricket at Bristol

Hampshire take lead from Smith

By James Allen

BRISTOL (first day of four: Hampshire won toss): Hampshire have scored 221 for six wickets against Gloucestershire

AMID the fanfares for David Lawrence, Hampshire were made to graft for their runs by his fellow seam bowlers yesterday. They showed a willingness to do so that was all the more commendable for a team which has started the summer as if it might be another season of undiluted struggle.

What moments of aggression there were came principally from Matthew Keech and Robin Smith, whose stand of 83 for the fourth wicket was the only alliance of real substance. Keech showed signs of coming to terms with the sluggish pitch before becoming a victim of Russell's agility, while Smith possessed a welcome desire to make haste whenever he could, clouting Hancock unceremoniously over mid-wicket for six with the one memorable stroke of the day.

His half-century was an untroubled affair and came close to giving Hampshire the initiative. Otherwise, it was the bowlers who chiefly held sway.

Smith was one of three players to be adjudged leg-before. The first, to his evident displeasure, was Hayden, who had been the epitome of vigilance for an hour and a half. The Australian badly needs to find his free-scoring stride if Hampshire are to start giving themselves totals to bowl at.

In the field, Alleyne shuffled his pack with dexterity, giving Lawrence four short spells and letting the rest work around him in a pattern that Gloucestershire hope will become familiar over the coming months. Lawrence, as well he might, looked tired as the evening closed in — he finished with figures of one for 70 from 15 wholehearted overs — but no one else strayed much from an accurate line.

Mike Smith found a consistently full length and profited accordingly. Lawrence, of course, provided the abiding memory in accounting for Laney, and a hailstorm offered a spectacular sideshow, but the quiet efficiency with which Robin Smith went about his business was impressive nonetheless.

Hail halts reign of Warwickshire

By John Thicknesse

THE PARKS (first day of three; Oxford University won toss): Oxford University have scored 129 against Warwickshire

AN INEXPERIENCED Oxford University team, containing six freshmen and only one Blue in Mark Wagh, needed a last-wicket stand of 37 to pass their previous lowest score of the season on a bleak day in the Parks.

Rain, followed by hail, meant that there was no play after tea. Batting by choice against a Warwickshire team missing Allan Donald and two other Test seam bowlers in Tim Munton, their injured captain, and Gladstone Small, the University batsmen never came to terms with the pace of Graeme Welch and Dougie Brown.

Bowling from the Norham Gardens end, the two seamers exploited the ball's tendency to keep low to share six wickets before lunch, Welch emerging with four for 39.

The unluckiest batsman was Byron Byrne, 25, an Australian, who was rapped on the pads ankle-high after clipping the previous ball from Brown to the mid-wicket boundary with one of the best strokes of the day.

James Averis, a rugby Blue, batting at No 10, was the top scorer. On his way to 36 not out, he stroked Ashley Giles, the England A slow left-armer, for three fours in an over. His contribution was instrumental in Oxford passing the 114 that they scored against Yorkshire last month.

Phil Neale, the Warwickshire director of coaching, refuses to be pessimistic about the likely absence of Munton until the middle of the season, after his back operation on Tuesday.

"It's very frustrating for Tim is his first year as captain in his own right, but teams have to reconcile themselves to injuries in sport," Neale said. "We're sure to miss his experience and steadiness, but his absence creates competition."

RUGBY LEAGUE

Struggling Paris show Mulholland the door

By Christopher Irvine

AFTER eight successive defeats, Paris Saint-Germain yesterday parted company with Peter Mulholland, who became the sixth coach to lose his job in the Super League, three months into the season.

Mulholland's departure, after the dismissals at Wigan, Halifax, Warrington, Castleford and Oldham, came as little surprise. Paris have had a troubled two months, despite the encouragement of an opening-day win away to Sheffield Eagles.

Mulholland's tenure was one of the briefest in rugby league. He arrived from Perth Western Reds at the start of the year, bringing with him several Australian players, but, after a bright start, the team has been decimated by injury, while internal French politics have affected the running of the club.

The Rugby Football League (RFL) has withdrawn some personnel because of the constant wranglings, but Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, who remains on the club's board, said: "Clearly, the Paris team is struggling and it is to be hoped that a change of team management will inspire a change of fortune."

Andy Goodway, who was released by Oldham last month, is an early favourite for the vacancy. The immediate concern of David O'Donnell, the Australian captain, who has been put in temporary charge, is to win on Sunday, away to Castleford, who are two places below Paris at the foot of the table.

John Monie, the former Wigan coach, was another linked with the Paris job, but his destination after his recent departure from Auckland Warriors could be a return to Central Park. Speculation is rife that Monie will join Phil Clarke, the former Wigan forward, as nominations by a shareholders' group who want to overthrow the Wigan board at an special general meeting on May 20.

The rebel shareholders plan to replace Jack Robinson, the chairman, and Tom Rathbone, a director, who approved the controversial £12 million sale of Central Park to the Tesco supermarket chain. "We have enjoyed more success than almost every other sporting body in the past 18 years and we have no intention of standing down," Robinson said.

IN BRIEF

Hide lands chance to regain world title

HERBIE HIDE, the former World Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion, will get a chance to regain the title he lost to Riddick Bowe (Srikumar Sen writes). Hide, 25, from Norwich, will meet another former champion, Tony Tucker, 39, of the United States, at the Norwich Sports Village on June 28. If Hide is successful, he could get a chance to meet the winner of the bout between Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson.

Hide was out of the ring for 16 months after being knocked out in six rounds by Bowe in 1995. He returned last July and has had only two contests, but Frank Warren, his promoter, has high hopes for him.

Medal hope

Judo: Kate Howey, a bronze medal-winner at the 1992 Olympic Games, will be among the favourites at the European championships, which begin in Ostend today. Howey will be competing at middleweight after failing to win a medal in the light-heavyweight category at the Games in Atlanta last year.

Clean sweep

Tennis: Great Britain beat Estonia 3-0 to record their third successive Fed Cup victory in Europe/Africa group two in Antalya yesterday. Clare Wood and Sam Smith, the British No 1, won their singles matches in straight sets, as did Lorna Woodroffe and Julie Pullin in the doubles.

Race abandoned

Cycling: The British international stage race planned this year as a successor to the Milk Race — last held in 1993 — was called off yesterday "because global TV agreements have fallen through", a spokesman for the organisers said.

Ireland cash in

Rugby union: Leading players in the Ireland squad have been offered contracts that would be worth up to £70,000 plus bonus payments, including earnings from international and provincial matches.

Costs soar

Olympics: The cost of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney has jumped by 43 per cent to A$2.289 billion (around £1.1 billion) from the original estimate, organisers said yesterday.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

One of the latest books in the Batsford bridge series is *Step-by-Step: Deception in Defence*, by Barry Rigal. This is a follow-on from his earlier book in the series *Deceptive Declarer Play*. Deception is an aspect of the game that is largely overlooked by average players. Though I have seen it attributed to several other players, Rigal says that the spectacular play on the hand below was found by Liza Shaw, a Great Britain international, at the rubber bridge table.

Dealer East **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

♠A K
♥Q J 10 9
♦5 4
♣A Q 10 8 7

♠9 8 7 6 2
♥8 3 2
♦Q J 9 6
♣2

N
W E
S

♠10 4 3
♥K 5
♦10 8 7 3 2
♣K 5 3

♠Q J 5
♥A 7 6 4
♦A K
♣J 9 6 4

W	N	E	S
—	—	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 C	Pass	2 H
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 H
Pass	6 H	All Pass	

Contract: Six Hearts by South **Lead: Two of clubs**

West led the club two, which declarer correctly assumed to be a singleton. He therefore went up with the ace, and Shaw deposited the king underneath it. Naturally, declarer now believed that it was East who had the singleton club, and so he played the ace of hearts and a second heart to avoid the risk of East getting a ruff from the doubleton trump. You can see the denouement, of course. Shaw won her heart king and gave her partner a club ruff.

☐ *Step-by-Step: Deception in Defence* (£9.99) is available from either Chess and Bridge 0171-388 2404 or IPBM Mail Order 0115-9422 615.

☐ The EBU spring foursomes, played in Stratford-upon-Avon at the weekend, was won by Ian Monachan, Norman Selway, Unal Durmus, David Price and Peter Czerniewski.

☐ *Robert Sheehan writes on* bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BIM
a. The fundament
b. An inhabitant of Barbados
c. A card game

FUNDI
a. The founding fathers
b. Toadstools
c. Edible grass

AFIKOMAN
a. A colonist
b. A piece of bread
c. A doorbell

GOONDA
a. A disguised leg break
b. A yob
c. A very hot Madras curry

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
chess correspondent

Neck and neck

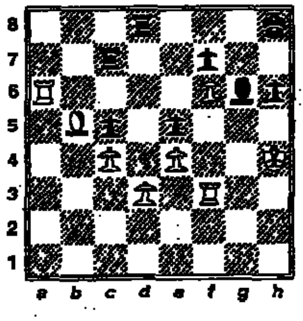
After the third game of Garry Kasparov's match against IBM's Deep Blue computer in New York, the score is level at 1½ points each. Playing White in game three, Kasparov exploited the unsophisticated nature of Black's response to an irregular opening, to gain space on the king's flank and crowd Black's light-squared bishop out of the game. However, to achieve this, Kasparov had to sacrifice a pawn. Despite enduring pressure, all Kasparov could do was to regain that pawn.

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Deep Blue
New York, May 1997

English Opening

1	d3	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	c4	Nf6
4	a3	d6
5	Nc3	Be7
6	g3	0-0
7	Bg2	Be6
8	0-0	Qd7
9	Ng5	Bf5
10	e4	Bg4
11	f3	Bh5
12	Nh3	Nd4
13	Nf2	h6
14	Be3	c5
15	b4	b6
16	Rb1	Kh8
17	Rb2	a6
18	bxc5	bxc5
19	Bh3	Qc7
20	Bg4	Bg6
21	f4	exf4
22	gxf4	Qa5
23	Bd2	Qxa3
24	Ra2	Qb3
25	f5	Qxd1
26	Bxd1	Bh7
27	Nh3	Rfb8
28	Nf4	Bd8
29	Nfd5	Nc6
30	Bf4	Ne5
31	Ba4	Nxd5
32	Nxd5	a5
33	Bb5	Ra7
34	Kg2	g5
35	Bxe5+	dxe5
36	f6	Bg6
37	h4	gxh4
38	Kh3	Kg8
39	Kxh4	Kh7
40	Kg4	Bc7
41	Nxc7	Rxc7
42	Rxa5	Rd8
43	Rf3	Kh8
44	Kh4	Kg8
45	Ra3	Kh8
46	Ra6	Kh7
47	Ra3	Kh8
48	Ra6	Draw agreed

Diagram of final position



Running score

	1	2	3	Pts
Kasparov	1	0	+	1½
Deep Blue	0	1	+	1½

In the above table, 1 represents a win, + a draw and 0 a loss

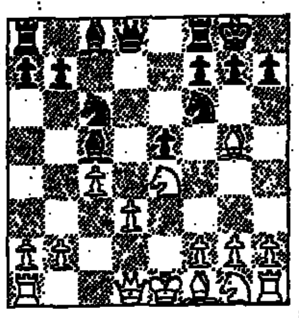
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Keller — De Moura, Dresden, 1954.

White has attacked the black bishop on c5 and is also threatening to wreck Black's kingside by capturing on f6. However, he would have done better to concentrate on his own development. Can you see why?



Solution on page 46

MOTOR RALLYING: FORMER CHAMPION TURNS 22-SECOND DEFICIT INTO VICTORY

McRae's final flourish secures win in Corsica

By Our Sports Staff

COLIN McRAE produced what he described as "the drive of my life", to win the Tour of Corsica yesterday. McRae, a Scot, made a dramatic final charge after he had started the last day in fourth place, 22sec behind Carlos Sainz, of Spain, the leader. McRae clocked the fastest time in three of the final six timed stages.

Even going into the final section — more than 34 kilometres through the mountains, from Stiliccione to Marati — McRae, the 1995 world champion, was still 7sec behind Sainz, but made the correct choice of tyres for the conditions and produced some aggressive driving in his Subaru on the wet roads to gain 15sec on his rival's Ford Escort. McRae won by eight seconds, with Sainz second and Gilles Panizzi, of France, in a Peugeot 306, a further 30sec behind in third place.

"That was the drive of my life," McRae said. "There is no way the Subaru would have gone any faster. We didn't do much testing with the rain tyres, but my only option was to attack. We were pretty confident, but it was never going to be easy, especially as it started to rain before the start of the final stage, but I gave it everything. It was a fantastic victory."

McRae, who won the Safari Rally, in Kenya, in March, is now only two points behind Tommi Makinen, the world champion, from Finland, at the top of the world drivers' championship and can take over the lead in Argentina in two weeks' time.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Kansas City 7 Boston 2, Cleveland 5 Texas 4; Baltimore 8 Anaheim 4; New York 7 Minnesota 2; Toronto 2 Detroit 1, Seattle 7 Chicago 6; *Oakland 6 Milwaukee 5.*

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Colorado 12 New York 11, Pittsburgh 4 Florida 0, Philadelphia 5 Houston 1, St Louis 4 Atlanta 3, Chicago 2 San Diego 1; Montreal 10 San Francisco 3 Cincinnati 3 Los Angeles 2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Play-offs; Eastern Conference: Chicago 100 Atlanta 97 (Chicago lead best-of-seven series 1-0). **Western Conference:** Utah 103 Los Angeles Lakers 101 (Utah lead 2-0)

CRICKET

BAIN HOGG TROPHY (one day). **Mansfield:** Nottinghamshire 208-7 (U Afzaal 71). Lancashire 204 (N T Wood 72 not out) Nottinghamshire won by 4 runs. **Leamington:** Warwickshire 148-7 (T Bloomfield 4-21); Middlesex 149-4. Middlesex won by 6 wkts.

CROQUET

CHELTENHAM: Coles Cup: Final: M N Avery bt D J Kibble +23tp, −7, +26sxp

CYCLING

KRIEGSTETTEN, Switzerland: Tour de Romandie: Prologue time-trial (8.1 kilometres). 1, C Boardman (GB) 9min 58.06sec; 2, E Breukink (Holl) at 2.28sec; 3, D Baranowski (Pol) at 3.87; 4, P Savoldelli (It) at 4.13; 5, J Bruyneel (Bel) at 6.28; 6, E Dekker (Holl) at 8.96

DUNKIRK FOUR-DAY RACE: First stage: (152.5 kilometres) 1, W Peeters (Bel) 3hr 29min 23sec; 2, N Mattan (Bel); 3, A Tchmil (Ukr) same time; 4, L Genty (Fr) at 2sec; 5, C Vasseur (Fr) at 9; 6, F Vandenbroucke (Bel) same time

FOOTBALL

Tuesday's late results

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: West Ham United 0 Newcastle United 0, Wimbledon 2 Liverpool 1

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: League Cup: Final, second leg: Tottenham Hotspur 2 Norwich City 0 (Tottenham win 2-0 on agg)

UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Cottingham 2 Higham 0

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Darwen 0 Newcastle Town 2.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Harwich and Parkeston 2 Warboys Town 0, Wroxham 3 Great Yarmouth Town 1. First division: Haverhill Rovers 2 Norwich United 2

ICIS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS TROPHY: Final: Leighton 1 Wealdstone 0

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 5 Leicester City 0. Second division: Burnley 3 Bradford City 1, Scunthorpe 2 Chesterfield 2 (played at Chesterfield)

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group nine: Ukraine 7 Albania 0

BELGIAN CUP: Semi-final: Tielen 2 Anderlecht 2 (Anderlecht win 4-2 on agg and meet Germinal Ekeren in final)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: (NHL) Stanley Cup: Play-offs: Eastern Conference: New York Rangers 3 New Jersey 2 (New York lead best-of-seven series 2-1). **Western Conference:** Detroit 5 Anaheim 3 (Detroit lead series 3-0)

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Championship group: Canada 1 Finland 0; Russia 1 United States 1 (at Helsinki). **Relegation matches:** Slovakia 2 Norway 1; Latvia 8 Germany 0 (at Tampere, Finland)

MOTOR RALLYING

TOUR OF CORSICA: Final positions: 1, C McRae (GB, Subaru Impreza WRC) 4hr *31min 08sec;* 2, C Sainz (Sp, Ford Escort WRC) at 8sec; 3, G Panizzi (Fr, Peugeot 306 Maxi) at 38; 4, F Delecour (Fr, Peugeot 306 Maxi) at 56; 5, P Liatti (It, Subaru Impreza WRC) 1min 59sec; 6, P Bugalski (Fr, Renault Maxi Megane) at 6.40. **World championship positions: Drivers:** 1, T Makinen (Fin) 28pts; 2, McRae 26; 3, Sainz 19. **Constructors:** 1, Subaru 54; 2, Mitsubishi 36; 3, Ford 29.

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Oldham St Anne's 23 Dudley Hill 6.

SWIMMING

WIGAN: Northern Counties age-group championships: Men: Freestyle: 100m: D Wilks (W Warriors) 51.9sec. 200m: S Mellor (Satellite) 1min 57.11sec. **Backstroke:** 100m: D O'Brien (Prescot) 1.03.58. 200m: Mellor 2.09.18. **Breaststroke:** 100m: D Roberts (Wirral Metro) 1.08.48. 200m: C Carroll (Stockport) 2.31.21. **Butterfly:** 100m: R Greenwood (Bolton Metro) 57.50sec. 200m: Greenwood 2min 06.65sec. **Individual medley:** 200m: P Woods (Co Salford) 2.12.19. **Women:** Freestyle: 100m: L Cooper (Wigan Wasps) 59.04sec. 200m: Cooper 2min 08.74sec. **Backstroke:** 100m: N Hoare (Satellite) 1.08.03. 200m: H Don-Duncan (Ashton Cen) 2.20.96. **Breaststroke:** 100m: K Fisher (Ulverston) 1.14.55. 200m: Fisher 2.42.12. **Butterfly:** 100m: S Healey (St Helens) 1.05.90. 200m: Healey 2.22.08. **Individual medley:** 200m: Cooper 2.26.04

TENNIS

ANTALYA, Turkey: Fed Cup: Europe-Africa zone: Group two: Pool A: Great Britain bt Egypt 3-0 (J Pullin bt Y Abdulla 6-1, 6-1; S Smith bt M El Wany 6-1, 6-1; C Wood and L Woodroffe bt Abdulla and El Wany 6-1, 6-0)

ROME: Women's tournament: First round: M Pierce (Fr) bt S Cecchini (It) 6-1, 6-1; L Neiland (Lat) bt F Perfetti (It) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2; S Testud (Fr) bt M Oremans (Holl) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6. Second round: D Van Roost (Bel) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 6-7, 6-1, 6-2; I Spirlea (Rom) bt C Torres Valero (Sp) 7-5, 7-6; M Seles (US) bt B Schett (Austria) 7-5, 6-0; E Likhovtseva (Russ) bt L Neiland (Lat) 6-3, 6-3; F Lubiani (It) bt A Huber (Ger) 6-2, 6-4; R Dragomir (Rom) bt E Callens (Bel) 3-6, 6-2, 6-0

LEE-ON-SOLENT: LTA satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Women: First round: J Osman bt M Lillo (Arg) 6-4, 7-6; D Muscolino (Arg) bt V Davies 6-4, 7-6; J Ward bt E Jelfs 6-2, 6-3; W Sawondari (Indo) bt B Auer (Austria) 6-2, 6-0

CORAL SPRINGS, Florida: Men's tournament: First round: P Korda (Cz) bt N Godwin (SA) 6-3, 6-4; S Sargsian (Arm) bt A O'Brien (US) 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; B Black (Zim) bt M Ondruska (SA) 6-3, 6-2; L Jensen (US) bt S Simian (Fr) 6-7, 7-6, 6-3; J A Viloca (Sp) bt G Schaller (Austria) 7-6, 6-2

HAMBURG: Men's tournament: First round: M Craca (Ger) bt M Goellner (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; N Kiefer (Ger) bt M Martelli (It) 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; S Dosedel (Cz) bt R Furlan (It) 7-6, 6-2; A Radulescu (Ger) bt T Nydahl (Swe) 6-4, 6-7, 7-5; C Costa (Sp) bt D Elsner (Ger) 6-4, 6-4; A Berasategui (Sp) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-2, 6-4; O Gross (Ger) bt H Alami (Mor) 6-4, 6-4

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 23pts £65,945.55, 22pts £615.00, 21pts £47.10, 20pts £10.30. Half-time: 21pts maximum £550.15. Four draws: £24.35. Ten homes: £98.80. Five aways: £2,406.

VERNONS: Treble chance: 23pts £42,336.50, 22pts £328.65, 21pts £67.15. Super shots: £32.25. Premier ten (paid on 9 correct) £39.35

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 23pts £13,742.65, 22pts £55.05, 21pts £7.15, 20pts £0.95. Eight aways: 23pts £160.20, 22pts £2.55, 21pts £0.50. Four draws: £25.00. Eight homes: £6.50. Four aways: £55.60. Super seven: £40.00. Lucky numbers: 30 38 12 29 31 5

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership
Blackburn v Middlesbrough (7.45)
Manchester Utd v Newcastle (8.0)

ICIS GUARDIAN INSURANCE CUP: Final: Boreham Wood v Braintree Town (at Dagenham and Redbridge FC)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Notts County v Leicester (7.0)

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Herne Bay v Woolwich, Thamesmead v Greenwich.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Holker Old Boys v Vauxhall G M

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwood v Burnham Ramblers, East Ham v Ilford, Hullbridge Sports v Concord Rangers

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Northampton Spencer v St Neots

SCHOOLS MATCH: Under-18 international match: England v France (at Carrow Road, 7.15)

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, second day of four
104 overs minimum

DERBY: Derbyshire v Surrey
HARTLEPOOL: Durham v Nottinghamshire
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Hampshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Sussex
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Somerset
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Leicestershire
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Glamorgan

University matches
11.30, second day of three

FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Essex
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Warwickshire

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (second day of three): *Chelmsford:* Essex v Durham. *Pontypridd:* Glamorgan v Yorkshire. *Southampton:* Hampshire v Worcestershire. *Leicester:* Leicestershire v Kent. *Nottingham:* Nottinghamshire v Lancashire. *Taunton:* Somerset v Gloucestershire. *The Oval:* Surrey v Derbyshire. *Eastbourne:* Sussex v Northamptonshire.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Badminton Horse Trials

GOLF: Benson and Hedges International Open (at The Oxfordshire, Thame).

SPEEDWAY: Premier League Cup: Sheffield v Newcastle (7.45).

Banks lends himself to action

What is the point of a sports minister? That is the question that sport, and Tony Banks, must be asking this week. The choice of the lovably boisterous Chelsea supporter, and left-wing MP for Newham North West, as Minister for Sport is one of the more delightful surprises in Tony Blair's new Labour Government.

True to form, Banks bounced in for his first day in office an hour late, wearing denim jeans, and looks certain to bring some much-needed colour to a job that had almost vanished without trace under his low-profile predecessor, Iain Sproat. Banks is well known as a political maverick and his appointment will delight many who believe that he has a better pedigree than most for the job.

He is fanatical about football and a devoted follower of Chelsea. He had an excellent track record in supporting the London Marathon while on the Greater London Council. Four years ago, Banks tabled an all-party early day motion calling on the National Heritage Department not to charge the marathon for using its parks.

BRYANT'S EYE

The new Minister for Sport is as much a fan as those he represents

Banks will also have endeared himself to the paying spectator by railing against the amounts of cash that football clubs have to pay for the policing of games and against the ever-rising cost of tickets. Many, too, will have been encouraged by his constant condemnation of the selling-off of school playing fields and by his passionate campaigning against blood sports.

Those who like to take part in, rather than merely watch, their sport will note that Banks likes to keep in good physical shape. He works out five mornings a week on a multigym in his cellar at home and said: "There is no excuse for politicians ending up looking like heaps of rubbish. They're not deprived of income, opportunity or knowledge, so, if they're fat and shapeless, it's probably because of overindulgence."

His biggest complaint about his own physique is his lack of height. He is 5ft 7in. "I've always wanted to be taller," he said. "Clothes would hang better and I'd have a much better view at football matches."

One of the greatest benefits to British sport may well be that Banks comes to the post as a recognised member of Labour's awkward squad, ever prepared to make a nuisance of himself and so likely to raise the profile of a job that has proved a backwater for too many of those who have gone before him.

Banks is not a career politician, and certainly not one to toady to self-styled sporting elites. With his love of football and his empathy for the supporters, he could be the most successful holder of this office since Denis Howell. Howell was the role model for others to follow, but few have matched his rapport with lovers of sport. What a sorry lot most of them were.

The post began back in 1962 when Lord Hailsham persuaded Harold Macmillan that there was a need for a supremo who could lead the development of sport throughout the land. Hailsham's analysis was right, but the trouble is that a dozen sports ministers later we still have not had anyone strong enough in the job.

The pick of the bunch, Howell, served twice as Minister for Sport between 1964 and 1979. The others generally became forgotten men in a graveyard job: Eldon Griffiths, Hector Munro, Neil Macfarlane, Richard Tracey, Colin Moynihan, Sproat ... who remembers their great sporting initiatives today?

One former minister in the Department of the Environment has even said that, when he was put in charge of sport, the world missed it. John Peyton, in his recently-published autobiography, confesses: "I could not even begin to see myself as Minister of Sport, which I regarded as something of a non-job, not far removed from farce ... to my great relief the appointment went almost unnoticed." Banks is unlikely to let his appointment go unnoticed. If he is prepared to state his mind, be the voice of the supporter and fitness enthusiast and fight his corner, he might prove a great success.

His immediate agenda for action should be relatively simple: he should set up a decent nationwide coaching structure and reverse the sad decline of sport in our schools. The coaching set-up in this country is pathetic. Up and down the land there are dedicated men and women who give their time and experience for next to nothing. They need support and funding.

Equally pressing is the state of sport in our schools. They have never recovered from the Thatcher years that saw the selling-off of playing fields and the disillusionment of many teachers who traditionally supervised games after the school day was over.

The collapse of sport in so many of our state schools has hit at every level. At the elite end there is a dearth of school champions who will be the world-beaters of tomorrow, and at the fitness level there are sad and terrifying reports of unfit and overweight six and seven-year-olds, who are putting their health at risk because of the lack of exercise in their school programme.

What Banks can bring that is new to this job is his high profile, his energy and a lot of lottery cash already earmarked for sport by the outgoing Government.

Banks himself was clearly amazed and delighted to be selected as Minister for Sport. Let us hope that the sporting public will be just as amazed and delighted by the way he plays it.

JOHN BRYANT

GOLF: GERMAN PUTS CONTINENTALS' CASE AS RYDER CUP DOMINATES AGENDA AT THE OXFORDSHIRE

Langer calls for redistribution of wealth

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

IN A Ryder Cup year, it is to be expected that any gathering of professional golfers and officials will be dominated by discussion of that thrilling event. On the eve of the International Open at The Oxfordshire, however, the first event of the professional year to be staged in Great Britain, the Ryder Cup talk with Severiano Ballesteros, the Europe captain, was not the usual discussion about the likely composition of his team, but rather about an appeal by Bernhard Langer for a more equitable distribution of the profits from the biennial competition.

When Langer talks, it pays to listen. He does not whinge. The way that he has coped with repeated attacks of the yips can only be admired. Now, midway through his 22nd season as a professional, a career the majority of which has been spent in Europe, he is one of the tour's senior statesmen, as well as one of its most respected and most successful.

So, when he says that the Swedish, Irish, German associations and their like should receive money from the Ryder Cup, it is time for the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA), which owns the event and presently splits the estimated £4 million profits with the PGA European Tour, to sit up and take notice.

"Ever since continental players became part of the Ryder Cup, part of the money should go to other PGAs," Langer said. "I have recommended as much to the tour. I don't know whether they will listen to me or not, but all the other continental players think the same. It is common sense and I hope it happens sooner rather than later."

Langer is one of ten of Europe's cup-winning team from the 1995 event at Oak Hill to be competing at The Oxfordshire. The significance of this was explained by Colin Montgomerie. "Although the Spanish and Italian [opens] had good fields, this is really the start of the Europe campaign," Montgomerie said. "Everyone is back for it."

Of Montgomerie's colleagues in the last Ryder Cup team, only Nick Faldo and Costantino Rocca are missing. One attraction is the amount of money at stake, another that it marks the start of four high-class tournaments, including the PGA, the flagship event of the European Tour, which together offer £3.2 million in prize-money.

Montgomerie has had two weeks off since competing in the United States in the week after the Masters. He returned to Britain, moved house and is raring to go again. "I won't be content if I don't win in the next four events," he said. "I've got to challenge now."

This brought him neatly to one of the essential paradoxes of the contemporary European Tour. Everything that Montgomerie says suggests that he would be better off competing in the United States, yet every time he says as much, he qualifies it by saying that he will not do so.

"You can only improve in any walk of life if you're competing against players you think are as good if not better than yourself," Montgomerie, Europe's leading player over the past four years, said. "I was doing that in the US and it has got to be good for your game. We in Europe hit the ball better from tee to green, but where the Americans outscore us is in their ability to get up and down from anywhere, possibly because they play on more consistent surfaces — but they do chip and putt phenomenally well."

From that, you might deduce that he is about to move to the United States to sharpen his game in an attempt to win the major championship that he covets. Then he appears to contradict himself: "I am very happy where I am right now and I am not in any mood to threaten that in any way by moving to the US."

One can only conclude that, what would be good for Montgomerie's golf, would be bad for his private life — and perhaps he cannot be blamed for putting his priorities in that order.

Langer: opinion

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 45

BIM

(b) The colloquial name for an inhabitant of Barbados. So *Bimshire* = Barbados. 1902: "Mr Bosanquet's team of English cricketers, which has lately been playing in Barbados, and making but an indifferent show before the doughty Bims."

FUNDI

(c) A West African grass, *Digitaria exilis*, cultivated for its seed, which resembles millet. Hungry rice. The native African name.

AFIKOMAN

(b) Near the beginning of the Jewish Passover service, a piece broken from the second of the three cakes of unleavened bread and put aside to be eaten at the end of the meal.

GOONDA

(b) A yob, rascal, rogue or thug. From the Hindi *gundā* a rascal. "Since the parties let their goondas loose in the streets to plunder and terrorise, business has been redeploying itself in safer parts of India."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. ... Nxe4!; 2. Bxd8 Bxf2+; 3. Ke2 Nd4 checkmate.

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TELEVISION CHOICE

A dangerous bed to lie on

3-D
ITV 7.30pm

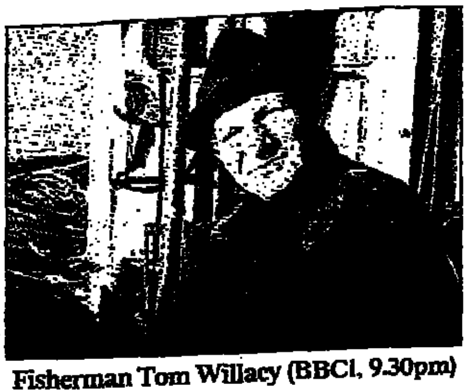
They are worth catching, these cautionary tales, even if tonight they do overload the evening with health matters. We all know by now that sun and sunbeds can cause skin cancer, but getting tanned for summer is almost obligatory for some people and sunbeds in the high street and at leisure centres are enjoying a boom. As a red-haired, fair-skinned researcher with a hidden camera shows, most centres issue no guidelines at all. Dr Jonathan Norris, a dermatologist, says: "Demand for the beds is based on ignorance and an ethical local council should be rejecting such demands." He would like to see them phased out altogether. A second story involves the use of a drug (Ivermectin) to kill parasitic sea lice in the profitable world of salmon farming.

Health Alert
Channel 4, 8.00pm

"Throw away your glasses!" is the first report in an investigative health series fronted by Shahnaz Pakravan. One in four of us wears glasses or contact lenses and we are being increasingly pressurised by the ad men to give them up and "enjoy the remarkable benefits of laser surgery". This, courtesy of a brisk in-again-out-again op, will have us seeing like Mekons, eyeballs naked and unashamed. Laser surgery is available for less than £400 an eye and this year the excimer laser machine, which until a decade ago was mainly used to engrave computer circuit boards, will zap the eyes of some 10,000 myopics. Yet it can be hazardous, as this record of the experiences of four patients — including (ugh) film of their surgery — shows. Acute pain, blurred vision, even astigmatism can result and note that, of all the eye experts interviewed, even those practising the surgery, not one has risked the op themselves.

Bodyguards: Out of the Mouths of Babes
ITV 9.00pm

Second in the pacey series which has found yet another angle on police fiction: the Close Protection Group. This usually involves protecting VIPs, but tonight the CPG show that they can be democratic, too. When a priest is murdered by a gang of young balaclava-wearing thugs, protection is ordered for the 13-year-old boy who witnessed the killing. A specialist on gangs suggests they may be "Bantu" hoodlums down from the drug-ridden streets of Manchester and probably including whites as well as blacks — political correctness for you. Then comes a shock — the unprotected younger brother is snatched and disappears completely. There are shades of *A Clockwork Orange* in the sinister roller-blading gangs and helmeted bikers, shades, too, of the similarly-themed *Touching Evil* on Tuesday. For Robson Green and Nicola Walker, read Sean Pertwee and Louise Lombard.



Fisherman Tom Willacy (BBC1, 9.30pm)

999
BBC1 9.30pm

How we love disasters when we are not involved. Cheering the true grit of some of the characters in these reconstructed stories perhaps eases our conscience about not leaving our armchairs while the emergency services cope. So welcome back to a fresh series for Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris, graphically showing how a little boy was sucked into the water filter of a swimming pool (and survived), how a fisherman had his leg severed by a winch cable (he survived, the leg did not) and how an old lady was left trapped and burning in her fourth floor flat, pinned down by a concrete slab while fire swept the building. Seventy-five-year-old Gwen Harding also survived — but only just.

Elizabeth Cowley

RADIO CHOICE

Body Politic
Radio 4, 2.00pm

Mark Riblin's play is about people suffering from a physical disability and how some of them make the superhuman effort to try treating it as a spur, rather than as a handicap, to achieving self-reliance. It is not a comfortable play to listen to. Presumably, that was never the playwright's intention anyway. I know some people who will wish that it dwelt more delicately on the sexual side of human relationships. Richard Pearce plays the disabled central character, a young man who sets about winning a measure of independence when he leaves an institution and becomes part of the community. There are many obstacles to clear before he can truthfully say to the world at large: "I am in charge!"

Opera Matinée: The Two Widows
Radio 3, 1.00pm

Ask anyone — anyone, that is, except someone who knows something about Czech opera — to name two operas by Smetana. I will bet a pound to a penny that there will be awful silence after *The Bartered Bride*. Fair enough. After all, it *was* his one and only international success during his lifetime. Nowadays, its fame rests almost entirely on its lively overture. Smetana actually wrote eight operas, and *The Two Widows*, written in 1874, was the fifth. Good old Radio 3 for giving us this rare opportunity to enjoy a cheerfully inconsequential work that is now all but forgotten. A fine cast, including Zdena Kloubova, is supported by the Prague National Theatre Chorus and Orchestra under Frantisek Preisler.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley, includes at **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session **8.30** Movie Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Dave Pearce **4.00am** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** David Allan **8.00** Paul Jones **9.00** Andy Peebles Soul Show **9.30** Stand Up Two **10.00** The News Huddlines **10.00** Stand Up Two. Barry Cryer hosts the fifth of six programmes featuring the best stand-up comedy **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.00** Steve Madden **3.00am** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night. Manchester United v Newcastle United and Blackburn Rovers v Middlesbrough **10.00** Dominik Diamond **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours with Vincent Hanna **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** World Today **7.30** Meridian Books **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Composer of the Month **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Turning a Tune **9.30** Tommy Vance **10.05** Business **10.15** Live from the Archive **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sport **11.30** Discovery **12.30pm** Neighbours **12.45** From Our Own Correspondent **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Record News **1.45** Sport **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: X-Press **4.05** Sport **4.15** Turning a Tune **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** Assignment **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** John Peel **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.30** Meridian Books **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Vintage Chart Show **1.30** Turning a Tune **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** The Works **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **7.00** Mike Read **9.00** Hall of Fame Hour **10.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Hummel (Trumpet Concerto in Eb major); Saint-Saëns (Cello Concerto No 1 in A minor Op 33) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Berwald (Duo Sonata for Cello and Piano) **8.00** Evening Concert. Handel (Four Coronation Anthems); Liszt (Dante Sonata); Berlioz (Te Deum) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Lunchtime Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C); Strauss (Violin Concerto); Gombert (Credo a 8); Copland (Four Dance Episodes, Rodeo); Grieg (Overture, In Autumn); Schubert (Piano Sonata in A, D664)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Malcolm Arnold (Four Cornish Dances); Mozart (Violin Sonata in E minor, K304); Bach (Cantata No 214: Tönet, ihr Pauken! Erschallet, Trompeten)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mary Miller. Includes Berio (Opus No Zoo); Locatelli (Concerto grosso in F, Op 4 No 12); Berg (Seven Early Songs); Rimsky-Korsakov (Clarinet Quintet in B flat); Britten (Turn of the Screw, excerpt); Berg (Four Pieces for Clarinet and Piano); Britten (Violin Concerto)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Sibelius

1.00pm Opera Matinée: The Two Widows. See Choice

3.20 Four Quartets. Koh-I-Noor Saxophone Quartet introduced by Nicola Heywood Thomas. Francaix (Petit Quatuor); Glazunov (Saxophone Quartet, Op 109); Pijper (Quartet No 5); Dubois (Saxophone Quartet)

4.15 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recital by Esther Geldard, viola, and Zoe Solomon, piano. Henry Eccles (Sonata in A minor); Bloch (Suite for viola and piano) (r)

5.00 Music Machine. Verity Sharp goes to Melton Mowbray to see how an organ is built then follows it to its installation in a church in Walthamstow

5.15 In Tune. Jeremy Nicholas introduces a report on the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards. Includes Borodin (Overture: Prince Igor); Strauss, arr Heifetz (An Einsamer Quelle, Op 9 No 2); Sgambati (Piano Concerto)

7.30 English Chamber Orchestra (Sounding the Century). Live from the Barbican Hall, London. Heinz Holliger combines his roles of oboist and principal guest conductor of the English Chamber Orchestra in a concert of 20th century classics. With Robert Tear, tenor. Stravinsky (Suites Nos 1 and 2); Britten (Nocturne) **8.15** After Ovid. Contemporary poets including Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney read versions they have made of stories from *Metamorphoses* **8.35** Concert, part 2. Britten (Six Metamorphoses after Ovid for solo oboe); Schoenberg (Verklärte Nacht, 1917 version

9.35 Extravagant Strangers. Caryl Phillips talks to the Egyptian-born novelist Penelope Lively about her life and work (4/5)

10.00 Music Restored: Radio 3 early Music Young Artists Showcase 1997. Chris de Souza introduces the first concert from this year's event, given last month at the Royal Academy of Music in London. The Passacaglia Ensemble performs chamber music by Handel, Telemann and Boismortier

10.45 Night Waves. Sarah Dunant presents the second of her reports from Israel and the Palestinian territories. She examines the peace process and assesses how realistic it is to expect a Palestinian state within the Gaza Strip and the West Bank

11.30 Composer of the Week: Haydn (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes. To celebrate the centenary of the birth of the saxophonist Sidney Bechet, Steve Voce presents a profile and introduces recordings of the man in action

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes **1.00** Choral Evensong (r) **2.00** Tamas Andras, violin, Odense Symphony Orchestra, under Janos Fürst **3.00** Schools **5.00** Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** *Farming Today* **6.25** *Prayer for the Day* **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day and Sports News **8.40** Last Chance to See, with Douglas Adams **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze. A moral discussion with Michael Buerk, David Cook, Janet Daley, Michael Mansfield, QC, and Dr David Starkey

10.00 News; Girlies (FM). The comedy serial about a group of British-born Asian women. Written by Sudha Bhuchar and Shaheen Khan (3/4)

10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray

11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. Reports from BBC correspondents from around the world

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Mark Whittaker

12.25pm Slightly Foxed. A new series of the literary quiz. With Gill Pyrah and her guests, Robert Barnard, Jonathan Cecil, Susan Moody and Graham Norton **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Thursday Afternoon Play: Body Politic. See Choice

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Dave Brehan. Includes a report from Ian MacMillan on the symbolism of a once famous working men's club

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen reviews *The Spanish Tragedy*, the 16th-century play Shakespeare drew upon in writing *Hamlet*. Plus a report from Russia on Ralph Fiennes in *Ivanov*

4.45 Short Story: The Disappearance, by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. Read by Garrick Hagon (r)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 The House of The Spirit Levels. The second of Nick Revell's six-part comedy starring David Swift and Maggie Steed

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 A Celebration for Ascension Day, from St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. With the *Daily Service* Singers, the New English Orchestra and Radio 2 Choirgirl of the Year, Helen Massey. Includes Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise (Llanfair); Movements from Gloria (Vivaldi); Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious (Regent Square); The Head, That Once Was Crowned With Thorns (St Magnus). With Readings from Daniel 7; Ephesians 1; Luke 24

8.00 Analysis: The Battle Done. After one of the longest election campaigns, Peter Kellner assesses the significance of the result and the prospects for Britain over the next five years

8.45 Uncle Mort's Celtic Fringe. Peter Tinniswood's comic adventure continues. With Sam Kelly and Stephen Thorne (3/5) (r)

9.00 Does He Take Sugar? News for disabled people presented by Frederick Dove

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

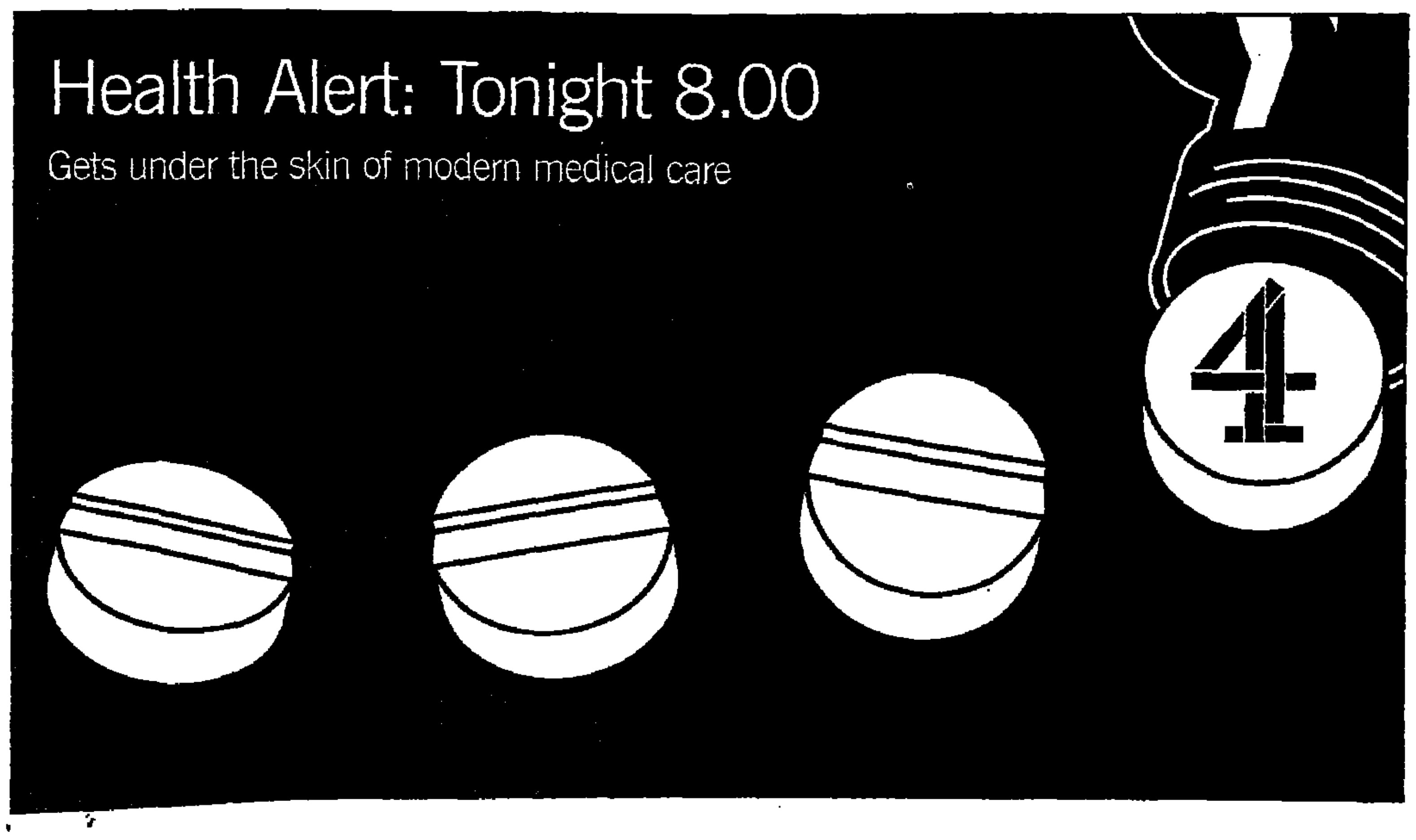
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Vice Consul. The first of two short stories by V.S. Pritchett, who died recently. Read by John Moffat (r)

11.00 Double Dribble. A new four-part comedy drama by Martin Glynn. With Roger Griffiths, Adjoa Andoh, Colin McFarlane and Eddie Nestor

12.00 News; Weather 12.30am The Late Book: Behind the Scenes at the Museum, by Kate Atkinson. Abridged by Rosemary Goring and read by Patricia Hodge (4/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



Health Alert: Tonight 8.00
Gets under the skin of modern medical care

هكذا من الأصل

Bean there, done that: it's time to move on

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

Sean Bean's wiry physique is now so famous in its own right that in the first scene of last night's *Sharpe's Revenge* (ITV) he was initially shown from behind, just to prove it. "That's him!" we swooned. "That's him!" Seated at a desk in a big white blouse, he could have been anybody. But the particular angle of his bony shoulder, the particular length of his head, his feathery haircut — well, it wasn't anybody else. People sometimes suppose that the attraction of *Sharpe* is its ripping yarns, or possibly the excellent opportunity it provides to revisit forgotten campaign details of the Napoleonic Wars. But it's not Old Boney that fascinates; it's Young Lanky that packs them in. Single-handedly, this paragon of scrawny British manhood has taken military frogging and restored it to its rightful place in the romantic wardrobe of women's hearts.

Tosh with a phenomenal budget, that's *Sharpe*. If there is a barren hillside in all Europe he has not spectacularly stormed in the cause of this series, it's been awarded a plaque to say so. Cannon to the right of him, cannon to the left of him, dust pluming, swords clanking, bodies succumbing like skittles to the blast. What *Sharpe* brilliantly achieves is toy-soldier battles under foreign skies; splendidly enthusiastic, and not the slightest bit real.

Although the catering truck is never actually glimpsed, the waft of tea-urn and bacon butty forever mixes with the cordite. At any moment in *Sharpe*, it's all too easy to imagine the battle-stained Bean, sandy of eyebrow and bloody of thigh, pouring HP Sauce on a big plate of hot dinner and casually tapping ash off his lunchtime fag.

Last night's story entailed a trumped-up charge against Sharpe which detained him in France. His beloved wife Jane (Abigail Cruttenden) dithered momentarily, then journeyed to London, withdrew Sharpe's fortune, spent it stupidly, and took a lover.

Jane's flimsiness of character, it may be noted, sets back the cause of women by 200 years. When Sharpe heard of Jane's perfidy, he took immediate action — breaking the bedroom door of a French widow who'd already had the extraordinary good fortune to nurse his manly thigh. "Beggin' yer pardon ma'am," he growled, "But yer door was locked." All over Britain, women exhaled audibly, and raced to open windows and adjust the thermostat.

When, six years ago, I first started this telly-watching job, I reviewed a mild little BBC play called *My Kingdom for a Horse* by John Godber. The then unknown Sean Bean, in drab clothes and horrendous specs, played an emotionally inert 31-year-old Yorkshire history teacher called Steve, who at weekends enacted Sealed Knot battles, in the role of lowly pikeman. The BBC should repeat *My Kingdom for a Horse*; it was a light and lovely film and, as a man of supreme inaction, Bean was great. On the field of battle, Steve's greatest talent was for playing dead — a metaphor for his life in general. If you'd told him he would ever bust down a door (as above) as a matter of thrusting romantic urgency, he would probably have fainted.

Since this is my last telly column (I am moving to Sport), I could take a grand overview of telly-I-have-known, but actually, the contrast between *Sharpe's Revenge* and *My Kingdom for a Horse* is enough. I had kept the tape, so I watched it again. And though it was made only seven years ago, in terms of production values it was ancient history: grainy, flat, slow, and eerily quiet.

On the other hand, in terms of subtlety of plot, characterisation and dialogue, it was vastly superior to *Sharpe's Revenge*, which operates (like much popular drama) mainly on the level of dumbshow. "You're a damn poor liar, but you're a damn good friend, Patrick Harper," declared Sharpe last night, flashing his teeth in the twilight, and it was by far the most complex sentiment to be expressed over the whole two hours.

No, in *Sharpe*, when they talk about raising standards, they mainly mean hoisting the flag. Otherwise, it's "*Mon dieu! C'est Sharpe!*" or "To Naples!" and lots of charging uphill ("Aaaaaagh!") in attractive frogging. *Sharpe* is serious only in so far as it's not funny. The only thing they treat with total reverence is Sean Bean's taut masculinity, a subject to which (oddly) I just keep on returning.

That particular cry "To Naples!", incidentally, is one of the more touching aspects of *Sharpe*. Last night it was imperative to Sharpe's tribunal that a French witness was trailed to Normandy. "To Normandy!" they cried, and set off at once. At no point did anyone ask for an exact address, or say doomily "Big place, Normandy". Later, they all set off for Naples with the same worrying vagueness, and the same pinpoint success. When you think of the number of times you've managed to miss somebody standing *on the same station platform*, you have to admit life was simpler in 1814 than we can possibly conceive today.

Next week, we get *Sharpe's Justice*, and the week after, *Sharpe's Waterloo* — in which (who knows?) perhaps Sharpe will wait confused at the bottom of the Eurostar escalator, and miss his new French girlfriend standing at the top. Anyway, your new telly critic Joe Joseph will report from the sofa in my place, and I can picture him already surrounded by a mounting stack of videotapes, steadily losing all body functions save right-thumb mobility (for working the remote).

It's been a privilege to write about television for so long. Thank you for all the letters. Happy viewing.

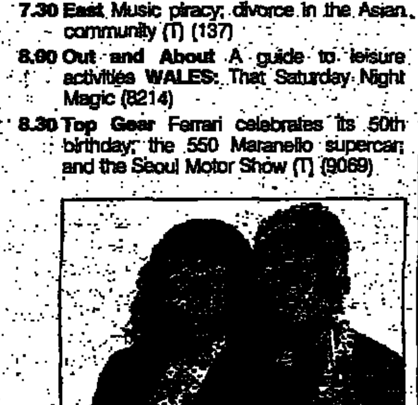
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (48953)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (43311)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (3235088)
9.20 Style Challenge (6779205)
9.45 Kilroy (7024953)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (88311)
11.00 News (T) (7875798)
11.05 The Great Escape (7232798)
11.35 Change That (1692412)
12.00 News (T) (8402069)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (8140175)
12.35 Good Living (9581175)
1.00 News (T) and weather (53798)
1.30 Regional News (86825088)
1.40 The Weather Show (99094175)
1.45 Neighbours *(T) (40914717)*
2.10 Quincy (6753779)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (6412972)
3.20 A Perfect Arrangement (6556243)
3.30 Playdays (8375243) **3.50** Postman Pat (6896137) **4.05** Felix the Cat (7732069) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (7713934) **4.35** Return to Jupiter (1487243)
5.00 Newsround *(T) (4645175)*
5.10 No Sweat (6414601)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (181175)
6.00 News (T) and weather (359)
6.30 Regional News *(311)*
7.00 Watchdog Healthcheck Toyah Willcox explores the benefits of massage for colicky or premature babies (T) (6972)
7.30 EastEnders Sonia meets the boy of her dreams, but let's hope she won't try to serenade him with her trumpet. Clare, too, is smitten with her date (T) (595)
8.00 Animal Hospital Live Rolf Harris presents a special programme to celebrate *National Pet Week*, taking a behind-the-scenes peek at day-to-day life at Hampden Veterinary Hospital. Plus: a report on how animals deal with stress (T) (2392)
8.30 Keeping Mum: The Accident Peggy is in her element playing nursemaid to Andrew after he injures his foot in a nasty accident. With Stephanie Cole, Martin Ball and Meera Syal (T) (1427)
9.00 News (T) and weather (1309)
9.30 **999** Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris introduce dramatic reconstructions (T) (539817)
10.20 Match of the Day Desmond Lynam introduces highlights of the top-of-the-table clash between Manchester United and Newcastle United and the re-scheduled match between Blackburn and Middlesbrough (371158)
11.10 Question Time David Dimbleby's guests are Andrew Neil and MPs Ann Taylor, Peter Lilley and Dr Jenny Tonge (T) (139137)
12.25am The Odd Couple (1968) Fastidious divorcé Jack Lemmon moves in with slovenly sports writer Walter Matthau, and proceeds to clean up his squalid apartment — leading to all manner of domestic discord. Neil Simon's adaptation of his own comedy stage play, directed by Gene Saks (601118)
1.55 Weather (3364977)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Biological Barriers Cell Walls (8594243) **6.25** Building in Cells (7616359)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T) (3956953) **7.30** Teenage Turtles (8178205) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (T) (1268663) **8.20** Fireman Sam (8055601) **8.35** The Raccoons (3369137)
9.00 Developing World (6780311) **9.25** Christianity in Today's World (8212137) **9.45** Watch Out (7606595) **10.00** Teletubbies (72773) **10.30** Storytime (6889243) **10.45** The Experimenter (4876330) **11.05** Space Ark (7856663) **11.15** Moving to English (6737408) **11.35** Landmarks (3492494) **12.00** Testament: The Bible in Animation (T) (77205)
12.30pm Working Lunch (37175)
1.00 Lifeschool (22466750) **1.25** Science in Action (70622663) **1.45** Numbertime (86802137) **2.00** Fireman Sam (10738224)
2.10 International Golf: Benson and Hedges International Open Steve Rider introduces live coverage of the first 18 holes at The Oxfordshire (189069)
6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (T) *(926972)*
6.45 Quantum Leap Sam jumps into the body of a young Elvis Presley (r) (T) (125576)
7.30 East Music piracy; divorce in the Asian community (T) (137)
8.00 Out and About A guide to leisure activities **WALES:** That Saturday Night Magic (8214)
8.30 Top Gear Ferrari celebrates its 50th birthday; the 550 Maranello supercar; and the Seoul Motor Show (T) (9069)

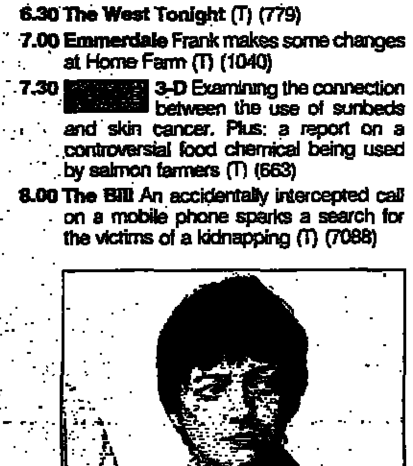


Saunders, Lumley celebrate (9.00pm)

9.00 Absolutely Fabulous A re-showing of the very first episode of the award-winning comedy series starring and written by Jennifer Saunders and co-starring Joanna Lumley (r) (T) (1021)
9.30 This Life Miles takes matters into his own hands (T) (306682)
10.15 A Woman Called Smith While Pat extends a welcome to overseas tourists to her Cornish farmhouse she worries about the BSE crisis (707359)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (206205)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (436717)
11.15 Late Review *Donnie Brasco*, starring Al Pacino and Brad Pitt, is among items discussed by Mark Lawson, Germaine Greer, Tony Parsons and Tom Paulin (754885)
11.55 *The Phil Silvers Show* (899682)
12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Which Body? (65996) **1.00** Insights into Violence (55170) **1.30** The Psychology of Addiction (85809) **2.00** FETV: Travel and Tourism (55828) ***4.00*** *Languages:* Speaking Our Language/Famously Fluent (54083) **5.00** Business and Work (59644)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4888446)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (T) (6787224)
9.55 Regional News (3112359)
10.00 The Time, the Place (32717)
10.30 This Morning (T) (62024330)
12.20pm Regional News (T) (8491953)
12.30 News (T) and weather (9577972)
12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (45193866) **12.55** Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (9552663) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (70640069) **1.50** Afternoon Live (40980750) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (40178021) **2.50** Afternoon Live (2897601)
3.20 News (T) (6567359)
3.25 Regional News (T) (6559330)
3.30 The Riddlers (r) (6810717) **3.40** *Wizadora (r) (7431224)* ***3.50*** Rupert (8371427) **4.15** Mike and Angelo (r) (4243866) **4.40** Sweat (T) (9652359)
5.10 A Country Practice (7130885)
5.40 News (T) and weather (324953)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (168750)
6.25 HTV Weather (501589)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (779)
7.00 Emmerdale Frank makes some changes at Home Farm (T) (1040)
7.30 **3-D** Examining the connection between the use of sunbeds and skin cancer. Plus: a report on a controversial food chemical being used by salmon farmers (T) (663)
8.00 The Bill An accidentally intercepted call on a mobile phone sparks a search for the victims of a kidnapping (T) (7088)



Emma Wray is disconsolate (8.30pm)

8.30 My Wonderful Life: Dinner for Two Macho man Lawrie accepts Donna's offer of a romantic dinner, determined to prove he is not completely devoid of social graces (T) (6595)
9.00 **Bodyguards** Drama series about a close-protection group (T) (5717)
10.00 News (T) and weather (71048)
10.30 Regional News (T) (827175)
10.40 The West This Week *Topical news* stories and investigative reports (263798)
11.30 Frieze Frame: Darwish Asian director Shafeeq Vellani's debut film, shot on location in Bristol, is a poetic road movie exploring *Sufi spiritual and cultural* traditions (768243)
11.45 Highlander (110427)
12.40am In Bed with MeDinner (9896373)
1.10 Funny Business (9902373)
1.40 Cyber Cafe (3607441)
2.10 Stand and Deliver (r) (2216880)
3.10 3-D (r) (T) (93693915)
3.40 The Good Sex Guide Late (r) (7059248)
4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (72191977)
5.00 Grass Roots (r) (16793)
5.30 News (16118)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9552663)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7130885)
6.25 Central News (183069)
10.40-11.40 Crime Stalker (901446)
11.40 Highlander (319446)
12.45am Funny Business (88977)
1.15 Ed's Night Party (18118)
1.45 Club Nation (560335)
2.45 Access All Areas (8003266)
3.10 Stand and Deliver (8273624)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (6308408)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (22479224)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7130885)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (35232)
10.30 Westcountry News (818427)
10.45 Moments of Madness (831137)
11.15 Roadrunner (821750)
11.45 New York News (110427)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 Shortland Street (9552663)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7130885)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (427)
6.30-7.00 Grass Roots (779)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (818427)
10.45 Film: The Gauntlet (33015381)
5.00am Freescreen (16793)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9552663)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7130885)
6.25 Anglia News (183069)
6.55-7.00 What's On (808999)
10.40 The Road Show (338330)
11.10 Go Fishing (282088)
11.40 Hunter (820392)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (31663)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (36021)
9.00 Bewitched (82137)
9.30 Film: Vice Versa *(55706866)*
11.25 Australia Wild (6735040)
11.50 The Lump (6798953)
12.00 House to House (95601)
12.30pm Ricki Lake *(22243)*
1.00 Slot Meithrin (52279804)
1.15 Deri Deg (57229309)
1.30 Waterways (21514)
2.00 Racing from Chester *(5330)*
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (392)
4.30 The Graceful Art of Success (576)
5.00 5 Pump (9446)
5.30 Countdown (156)
6.00 Newyddion (799779)
6.05 Heno (186156)
6.35 Bob Yn Ddau (806791)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (296427)
7.25 Talwrn y Beirdd (545576)
8.00 Yng Nghwmni — Caryl (8330)
8.30 Newyddion (4137)
9.00 Heroes of Comedy: The Goons (3359)
10.00 The Investigator (821392)
11.45 Dispatches (369866)
12.30am The Entertainers (50064)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (31663) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (36021) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (82137)
9.30 Vice Versa (1947, b/w) with Roger Livesey and Anthony Newley. A satirical farce about a pompous Victorian stockbroker who, because of a magical Indian gem, becomes trapped in the *body of his young son who in turn* becomes his father. Directed by Peter Ustinov (55706866)
11.25 Australia Wild (6735040) **11.50** The Lump Animation (6798953)
12.00 House to House (95601) ***12.30pm*** Light Lunch (25069) **1.30** Waterways (3/6) Dick Warner explores the Crum Estate in Upper Lough Erne (21514)
2.00 Racing from Chester The **2.10, 2.40, 3.10** and **3.40** races (5330)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (392) **4.30** Countdown (T) (576) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (9446) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (156)
6.00 Springhill (2/26) (T) (999)
6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (T) (791)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (944798)
7.50 Book Choice Special: A Festival of Commonwealth Literature with Ghanaian novelist Ama Ata Aidoo (995446)

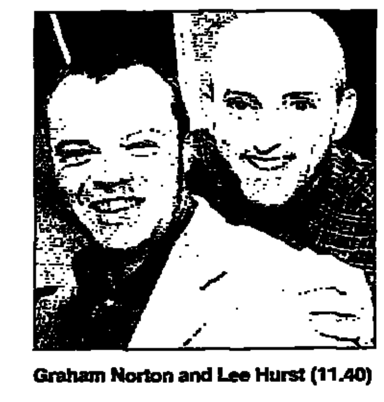
An eye surgery patient (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Health Alert** New medical series (T) (8330)
8.30 Taste of the Times Sophie Grigson *extols the merits of polenta, coconut milk* and blueberries (4/6) (4137)
9.00 Dispatches Investigative series (T) (904576)
9.45 Bright Sparks: Fear of Fat Film student Rupert Miles's documentary explores anorexia (747717)
10.00 Jo Brand Through the Cakehole The comedian muses on HRT, soap operas and politically correct banking (r) (735330)
10.35 Northern Exposure Off-beat, Alaska-set comedy (T) (989224)
11.30 The Naked Truth Camilla's plans to seduce her multi-millionaire boss are put on hold: her sister is already engaged to the man (T) (29243)
12.00 Walls of Glass (1985) with Philip Bosco, Geraldine Page, Linda Thorson and Olympia Dukakis. A New York cab driver tries to live up to the ideals of his dead father by becoming a Shakespearean actor. Directed by Scott Goldstein (839064)
1.35am Fighters East End of London trainer Jimmy Tibbs puts his boxers through their paces (r) (987970)
3.30 Schools Ulster Unearthed (r) **4.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica **4.05** Zimbabwe the Copper Miner's Family **4.30** Schools at Work **4.35** The English Programme (95286)
5.30-6.00 Backdate (r) (T) (53660)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on *transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite.* **Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (8991175)
7.30 Havakazoo (5746595) **8.00** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (8696717)
8.30 Wideworld Part three of the series on how modern technology is making the world a smaller place. Examining the inroads being made by big business as China opens up its borders to trade and *business investment (8695088)*
9.00 Espresso (2626040) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (7203953) **10.30** The Great Garden Game (r) (8675224)
11.00 Leeza (9342224) **11.50** Double Espresso (34643514) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8686576) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (4778595)
1.00 5 News Update (49094514) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (3755137) **2.00** 5's Company (7277866)
3.30 Brothers in Law (1957, b/w) with Richard Attenborough, Ian Carmichael and Terry-Thomas. A comedy about a newly-qualified barrister who is apprenticed to an eccentric QC. Directed by Roy Boulting (3524408)
5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (35532137)
5.30 100 Per Cent (9448717)
6.00 Whittle *Quiz (T) (9438330)*
6.30 Family Affairs (T) (9429682)
7.00 Exclusive (2213773)
7.30 Wild States: Return of the Bison The story of the bison (9425866)
8.00 Nancy Lam Assisted by husband Ben, she cooks prawns, chicken and pork in one starter, tamarind chicken and barbecued vegetables (T) (6918381)
8.30 5 News (3968066)
9.00 What Kind of Mother Are You? (1996) starring Mel Harris and Nicholle Tom. A fact-based drama about a mother's attempt to teach her daughter a lesson which goes horribly wrong. Directed by Noel Nosseck (21424327)
10.40 Exclusive Extra (7569791)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (5091392)



Graham Norton and Lee Hurst (11.40)

11.40 Bring Me the Head of Light Entertainment Comedy panel game with Paul Thorne and Mark Maier joining regulars Graham Norton, Lee Hurst and Fred Macaulay (5402601)
12.10am Live and Dangerous Through-the-night sports magazine with worldwide *football (26621719)*
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4333793)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2681977)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, ublished on Saturday

KY 1

00am Morning Glory (257359) **9.00** Regis Kathie *Lee (18224)* **10.00** Another ld (93330) **11.00** Days of Our Lives 66) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (63514) pm Geraldo (49934) **2.00** Sally Jessy hael (46934) **3.00** Jenny Jones (88088) Oprah Winfrey (69595) **5.00** Star Trek: *Next Generation* (5507) **6.00** Real TV) **6.30** Married — with Children (7359) The Simpsons (1446) **7.30** M*A*S*H **8.00** Third Rock from the Sun (7868) The Nanny (9601) **9.00** Seinfeld 79) **9.30** Mad About You (64243) **10.00** cago Hope (99458) **11.00** Star Trek: The t Generation (18589) **12.00** America's mbest Criminals (28977) **12.30am** P D (12828) **1.00** Hit Mix (9303489)

KY 2

0pm Superboy (3478682) **7.30** uperboy (3265224) **8.00** Sliders (7497682) 00 Highlander (7417446) **10.00** Tek War 467205) **11.00** Late Show (4337069) 2.00 Hit Mix (4587170)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Nativity (1978) (32040) **8.00 The Patsy Only You** (1994) (60514) **10.00 The Patsy** ... **11.50 Imaginary** (1964) (47631137) **11.50 Imaginary** ... **1.40pm The Crimes** (1994) (82124750) **3.30 Tuskegee Airmen** (1995) (22056834) **5.00 A Walton Wedding** (1995) (37446) **7.00 Problem Only You** (1994) (30798) **9.00 The Colony Child III** (1995) (90243) **10.30 The Movie Show** (1995) (50576) **11.00 Beverly Hills Cop** (1984) (29682) **12.45am Thin Ice** (1996) (513021) **2.20 Vanishing Son IV** (1994) (454557) **3.50 Warning Sign** (1985) (52894354)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Seventh Victim (1943) (8870779) **7.15 Breakout** (1984) (1500863) **8.20 Porco Rosso** (1992) (95243086) **10.00 Lillian Russell** (1940) (47855585) **12.10pm Hart to Hart:** **Secrets of the Hart** (1995) (821356) **2.00 The Left-Handed Gun** (1958) (83392) **4.00 Porco Rosso** (1992) (3663) **6.00** *Black Feather (1995)* (30876682) **7.40 US Top 10** (955066) **8.00 Don Juan DeMarco** (1995) (49971) **10.00 Behind Closed Doors** (1994) (627663) **11.40 Red Shoe Diaries: Four on the Floor** (1995) (286853) **1.10am In the Shadow of Evil** (1994) (6968844) **2.40 The Most Desired Man** (1994) (772847) **4.15 The Seventh Victim** (1943) (368489)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Two for the Road (1967) (2104576) **8.00 Superman III** (1983) (2109021) **10.00 Force 10 from Navarone** (1978) (15918279) **12.10am The Mean Machine** (1975) (8455460) **2.10 Darling** (1965) (49851977) **4.15-5.50 Two Flags West** (1950) (8661538)

TNT

9.00pm The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson (1990) (37549682) **11.00 A Man for All Seasons** (1988) (76768576) **1.30am Hysteria** (1965) (54522826) **3.00-5.00 Diner** (1982) (75800460)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (30885) **7.30** Shotgun Challenge (59576) **8.30** Racing News (50175) **9.00** Sports Centre (41427) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (87717) **10.00** The Pavilion End (15576) **11.00** Golf Magazine (22717) **11.30** Iron Women (23446) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (21663) **12.30pm** World of Super League (23663) **2.30** Spanish Football (64446) **4.30** Futbol Mundial (6048) **5.00** Superstars (5663) **6.00** Sports Centre (1953) **6.30** Netbusters (2205) **7.00** Formula Three (33311) **8.00** Rugby Club (53175) **10.00** Sports Centre (22392) **10.30** Formula Three (19408) **11.30** Trans World Sport (49755) **12.30am** Sports Centre (43712) **1.00** Rugby Club Special (26793) **3.00-3.30** Sports Centre (96064)

SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm Trans World Sport (1950408) **9.00** Spanish Football (1958595) **11.00** Football Scrapbook (4012972) **12.30am-1.00** Greatest Moments in Sport (7229557)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Beach Volleyball (95291446) **1.00pm** *Skiff Sailing (79725717)* **1.30** The Pavilion End (93796779) **2.30** British Basketball (30937156) **5.00** Inside the PGA Tour (80707408) **5.30** Beach Volleyball (18984934) **6.30** *Skiff Sailing* (23894576) **7.00** Sports Centre (80710972) **7.30** Football League Review (18913446) **9.00** European Golf (37868717) **10.00** Women's Golf (37838576) **11.00-11.30** Snowboard Show (89822972)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Ice Hockey (44088) **8.00** Tennis (48972) **8.30** Motocross (45243) **9.00** Karting (58866) **10.00** Triathlon (33972) **11.00** Ice Hockey (17885) **11.30** Football (89427) **1.00** Mountain Bike (24224) **1.30** Motors (70156) **2.30** Live Cycling (43446) **4.00** Ice Hockey (8972) **4.30** Live Tennis (14934) **6.00** Live Ice Hockey (73175) **7.30** Sumo (39224) **8.30** Boxing (86205) **9.30** Tennis (63137) **10.00** Football (52682) **11.30** Ice Hockey (14359) **12.00-12.30am** Sailing (91847)

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystack (8383069) **7.35** Neighbours (6777392) **8.00** Crossroads (8487205) **8.25** EastEnders (4955330) **9.00** The Bill (7384137) **9.30** Don't Wait Up (4501069) **10.00** Robin's Nest (4441040) **10.30** The Sullivans (7353021) **11.00** Casualty (87822381) **12.05pm** Crossroads (86015885) **12.30** Neighbours (4505885) **1.00** EastEnders (8162717) **1.35** No Place Like Home (6910330) **2.10** A Little Bit of Emery (94323330) **2.20** Three Up, Two Down (6033953) **2.55** 'Allo, 'Allo! (9271427) **3.30** The Bill (3487576) **4.00** Boon (3901175) **5.00** Generation Game (63523224) **6.05** EastEnders (2674822) **6.40** Sykes (5293156) **7.20** Russ Abbot (5278866) **7.50** Rising Damp (7754514) **8.20** In Sickness and in Health (6971717) **9.00** The Bill (3907359) **9.30** Chancer (47276069) **10.35** Bottom (5822663) **11.15** The Young Ones (9171953) **12.00** Alexei Sayle (5385119) **12.35am** It's a Knockout (7283731) **1.25** Miami Vice (6601996) **2.15** Shopping at Night (75769828)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (4897446) **7.00** Coronation Street (6533779) **7.30** Families (6545514) **8.00** Surprise, Surprise (1665088) **9.00** The Professionals (7674717) **10.00** Richard and Judy Exclusive (8692311) **10.30** Doctor on the Go (9950245) **11.00** Within These Walls (6521934) **12.00** Coronation Street (9941595) **12.30pm** Families (6254935) **1.00** Albion Market (8525750) **1.30** The Good Life Guide (7604476) **2.00** Drummonds (9593040) **3.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (9780692) **4.00** Surprise, Surprise (9709717) **5.00** The Professionals (3031427) **6.00** Families (2594175) **6.30** Coronation Street (2685427) **7.00** Surprise, Surprise (6856175) **8.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (8832595) **9.00** Coronation Street (9798601) **9.30** The Comedians (3659361) **10.00-11.00** The Professionals (6855446)

Christopher Reeve and Annette O'Toole (Sky Movies Gold, 8.00pm)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Mouse Tracks (6220953) **6.25** Quack Attack (6249088) **6.50** Bonkers (5842798) **7.15** The Little Mermaid (8893066) **7.40** Aladdin (4321359) **8.05** Quack Pack (2504514) **8.30** Goof Troop (83427) **9.00** The Care Bears (4586137) **9.25** Pooh Corner (4598972) **9.50** Muppet Babies (3493408) **10.15** Grounding Marsh (3526969) **10.40** Sing Me a Story (1292156) **11.05** Mouse and Mole (2791866) **11.10** Big Garage (4301175) **11.25** Play Along (3259427) **11.35** Fraggle Rock (8560576) **12.20pm** Timon and Pumbaa (7854408) **12.30** Boy Meets World (9000156) **1.05** Timon and Pumbaa (68166311) **1.15** Mouse Tracks (295040) **1.45** Aladdin (60393798) **2.10** Goof Troop (24461446) ***2.35*** *Bonkers (1498214)* ***3.00*** *Quack Attack* (9746224) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (2508866) **3.35** The Little Mermaid (8589514) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (5454866) **4.10** Goof Troop (6057359) **4.30** Everyday's a Chooseday (3514) **5.00** Aladdin (7066934) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (8694868) **5.35** Mighty Ducks (189327) **6.00** New Doug (1779) **6.30** Boy Meets World (5359) **7.00** Brotherly Love (2372) **7.30 FILM: Once In a Blue Moon** (27330) **9.00** Dave's World (35205) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (94021)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (9537953) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (9856359) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (4311021) **7.30** Alien Rangers (4330156) **8.00** *Beetleborgs* (2598663) **8.30** Crocadoo (2597934) **9.00** Rimba's Island (3333866) **9.20** The Magic Box (4933021) **9.45** Dudley the Dragon (1269427) **10.05** Rimba's Island (4192088) **10.25** The Magic Box (7803243) **11.00** Jin Jin *(6763392)* ***11.30*** *Pinocchio (6764021)* **12.00** Inspector Gadget (3581750) **12.30pm** VR Troopers (84248514) **12.50** Alien Rangers (84228750) **1.10** Beetleborgs (32782779) **1.30** Eek! Stravaganza (4345866) **2.00** Life with Louie (3474866) ***2.30*** *Crocadoo* (3224359) **3.00** Gadget Boy (3486601) **3.30** Eek! Stravaganza (3256576) **4.00** Life with Louie (3268311) **4.30** Alien Rangers (3264595) **5.00** Beetleborgs (3498446) **5.30** Spiderman (3288175) **6.00** X Men (3285088) **6.30-7.00** Goosebumps (3269040)

TCC

6.00am Road to Avonlea (77427) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (31798) **8.00** Batman (80330) **8.30** Art Attack (89601) **9.00** Flash Gordon (70953) **9.30** Bobby's World (16243) **10.00** Creepy Crawlers (28175) **10.30** Robinson Sucroe (76137) **11.00** Danger Mouse (51243) **11.30** Gravedale High (52972) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (90717) **12.30pm** Halfway Across the *Galaxy (27359)* ***1.00*** *By Way of the Stars* (34224) **1.30** Black Beauty (19330) **2.00** The Girl from Tomorrow (4330) **2.30** Ocean Odyssey (6224) **3.00** Art Attack (9327) **3.30** Flash Gordon (8069) **4.00** Batman (7576) **4.30-5.00** The Big Dish (6088)

CARTOON NETWORK

Cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm** Includes Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula (45392) **6.30** Rocko (36999) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (38427) **7.30** Rugrats (17934) **8.00** Doug (59446) **8.30** Arthur (58717) **9.00** CBBC (54040) **10.00** Wimzie's House (81021) **10.30** Babar (38953) **11.00** Magic School Bus (20359) **11.30** Mr Men (21088) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (29205) **12.30pm** Little Bear Stories (85175) **1.00** CBBC (77330) **2.00** Dr Seuss (3448) **2.30** Kassyfur (8666) **3.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (2953) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (3311) **4.00** Jumanji (2446) **4.30** Rugrats (1330) **5.00** Sister Sister (4798) **5.30** Moesha (2682) **6.00** Press Gang (9595) **6.30-7.00** Doug (3175)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High **1.00pm** Madison **1.30** Sweet Valley High (4598224) **2.00** Hangtime (4890595) **2.30** California Dreams (3410427) **3.00** Byker Grove (4802330) **3.30** 9-2-5 (3415972) **4.00** Sweet Valley High (3401779) **4.30** Hangtime (3490663) **5.00** Saved by the Bell (4814175) **5.30** California Dreams (3414243) **6.00** Byker Grove (3411156) **6.30** Madison (3402408) **7.00** Heartbreak High (8699359)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (4810359) **9.00** Monsters (3992427) **9.30** Twisted (4510717) **10.00** Tour of Duty (8681330) **11.00 FILM: Shogun Assassin** (2779446) **1.00am** Starsky and Hutch (4273460) **2.00** Tour of Duty (7421915) **3.00 FILM: Sunday Too Far Away** (3766386) ***5.00*** *The New* Twilight Zone (8849118)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (4934) **7.30** Roseanne (9359) **8.00** Entertainment UK (3682) **8.30** *Almost Perfect (2717)* **9.00** Cheers (67345) **9.30** Cybill (69311) **10.00** Frasier (20934) **10.30** Monty Python (39682) **11.00** We Know Where You Live (17840) **11.30** Nightstand (35175) **12.30am** Sledgehammer (41354) **1.00** Cheers (55070) **1.30** *Cybill (53847)* ***2.00*** *Entertainment UK* (59606) **2.30** We Know Where You Live (61441) **3.00** Frasier (94606) **3.30-4.00** Almost Perfect (52793)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00am The Twilight Zone (9022335) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (5744625) **2.00** Friday the 13th (6094248) **3.00-4.00** Dark Shadows (3775809)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Painting (7362779) **9.30** Garden Calendar (4592311) **10.00** Screaming Reels (4449682) **10.30** Doing it Up (7351663) **11.00** The Painted House (3385137) **11.30** This Old House (3986866) **12.00** Yan Can Cook (7375243) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (4503427) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (8398446) **1.30** Home Again (4502798) **2.00** Hometime (4803069) **2.30** Furniture to Go (3416601) **3.00** Two's Country Cooking (4882576) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (3428446)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm High Five (3407953) **4.30** Driving Passions (3403137) **5.00** Terra X (4887021) **5.30** Justice Files (3427717) **6.00** Wild Things (3417330) **6.30** Wild Things (3408682) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (4807885) **7.30** Disaster (3404866) **8.00** Danger Zone (8671953) **9.00** Top Marques (3998601) **9.30** Ultimate Thrill Rides (4583663) **10.00** Justice Files (8661576) **11.00** Classic Wheels (8375595) **12.00** Tornado Down (8836644) **1.00am** Disaster (7102642) **1.30-2.00** Beyond 2000 (2739828)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Ancient Mysteries (5269205) **5.00** Knights (8706494) **6.00** D-Day (3639205) **7.00-8.00** Orson Welles (1974088)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.05pm Cross Wits (9064330) **5.50** Family *Fortunes (233476)* ***6.00*** *Challenge TV's* Family Days Out (696243) **6.30** Catchphrase (957866) **7.05** Winner Takes All (709214) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (802137) **8.20** All Clued Up (977175) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (201330) **9.35** Sale of the Century (103359) **10.00** Challenge TV's InnQuizition (777243) **10.05** Treasure Hunt (661156) **11.20** Studs (410934) **12.00** Winner Takes All (49967) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (64064) **1.30** Moonlighting (46538) **2.30** Jake and the Kid (75489) **3.30** My Two Dads (92557) **4.00** The Fall Guy (78625)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (30833427) **9.05** Gladrags and Glamour (7088717) **9.15** Gordon Elliott (7363311) **10.05** Jerry Springer (5495458) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7531330) **11.50** Brookside (9755040) **12.25pm** Why Me? (19855311) **12.55** Tempest (8199476) **1.40** Rolonda (6036175) **2.30** The Agony Experience (7132137) **3.00** Live at Three (32157885) **4.05** Jerry Springer (4602311) **5.05** Lingo (44997392) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (7136953) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (9091934) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (9778576) **7.05** Hearts Afire (4304427) **7.35** Brookside (6996595) **8.05** Rolonda (6744088) **9.00 FILM: Love and Curses** (2106934) **11.00-12.00** The Sex Zone (2196137)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Zabaan Sambhal Ke **8.00** Gaane Anjaane **8.30** Business Update **9.00** *Mump Special* **9.30** Vulna Chamke Motira **10.00** Nasal **11.00** Ashana **11.30** Banegi Apni Baat **12.00** Daclaan **12.30pm** Rachal **1.00 FILM: Tere Payal Mere Geet** **4.05** ZEE Top 10 **5.00** Zone Time **5.25** Vikram Aur Betaal **6.00** Sorry Meri Lorry **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Euro Zindagi **7.30** Cinemagic **8.00** News **8.35** Andaz **9.05** Jaal **9.20** Hasratain **10.00** Yaadon Ki Baarat **10.30** People's Club **11.00** Mano Ya Na Mano **11.30-12.00** Antakshari

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

MOTOR RALLYING 45

Late charge helps McRae close gap on world champion

SPORT

BRYANT'S EYE 46

Why Tony Banks is Britain's man for all seasons

THURSDAY MAY 8 1997

Ferguson believes that his Premiership champions can only get better

United to keep red flag flying

BY OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

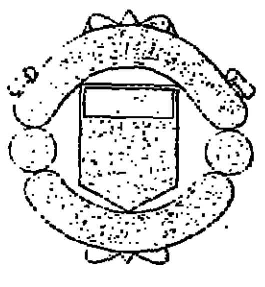
IT WAS quiet at Old Trafford yesterday. The forecourt was full of cars as usual, but there were no party balloons up. The Megastore was almost empty; the Superstore was deserted, too. Only in the gloom of the tunnel that runs beneath the main stand was there any outward sign that Manchester United had just won their fourth championship title in five years.

A small group had gathered there, initially to shelter from the rain that came and went in squalls and then to ask officials whether there was any chance of players appearing to sign autographs. A middle-aged couple, from Glasgow, said the Rangers and Celtic players always showed up at Ibrox and Parkhead respectively after training.

As the rain persisted, however, the knots of supporters turned their attention to a line of posters on the wall, a series of large faces staring out from a black background, each inscribed with one word to encapsulate the seven virtues of Manchester United. And as they stared at them, more people came, as if to form a vigil.

The first in the line, of course, was Eric Cantona. Imagination was his quality. David May was next with Drive. Andy Cole after him with Determination and then Gary Neville with Dedication. Ryan Giggs was the Inspiration, David Beckham had Cheek and Roy Keane, hirsute and moody, was blessed with Power.

When the rain ceased, the crowd dispersed to embark on the last throes of their fruitless search for autographs. By then, the streetwise fans had been allowed into The Cliff, United's training ground, a few miles away, to laud their heroes.



Cole was the last to leave, pausing to talk to journalists about the new sense of fulfilment he is gaining from his play, before signing the pieces of paper and the pictures thrust in front of him and climbing into his car.

Upstairs, in a modest conference room, Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, who had arrived at The Cliff early to congratulate his staff, was talking about the potential of the team that was handed the FA Carling Premiership by the failure of Newcastle United and Liverpool to maintain their challenge for the title on Tuesday night.

It has been suggested that this United team, though they have clinched the championship with two games to spare, are not as talented as other Old Trafford incarnations that have dominated English football in the Nineties. Ferguson did not dispute the claim outright, but he did hint that after the "fairy tale" title success with so many young players last year, some of the members of his squad had found it difficult to motivate themselves for run-of-the-mill fixtures this season.

"This team does not have the power of the 1994 team yet, for instance," Ferguson said. "Ince, Robson, Hughes, Bruce, they were so powerful, all of them. You felt they could handle any game physically and it made them really difficult to beat. Sometimes, we went into games thinking we could not be beaten.

"But this team has got to go through all that. It has its advantages. Someone like Solskjaer is going to improve and improve next year, physically and in other ways. I do think these players will get even better. I don't know how much better until they reach maturity, but some of them could be great players.

"Their tactical awareness is one thing that is already better. But one little problem this season is that we have been focusing on the big games and not the mundane ones. We have got to get back to basics, but when you are winning things you get that happening. We need to focus on it next year.

"I think we can go on to be as dominant as Liverpool were. The young players have showed great mental toughness. They have coped remarkably well and there is no reason why they should not go from strength to strength."

Next year, of course, will be another year in pursuit of the European Cup and Ferguson also praised his players for refusing to let their advancement to the semi-finals this season adversely affect their domestic performances.

Ferguson did not depart, ironically enough, without one final swipe at the Premier League, the organisation that has become synonymous with the rebirth of greatness at Old Trafford, but which refused to grant an extension to the season to ease United's fixture congestion.

When he spoke, it was as if he had seen the T-shirts draped over a wall outside Upton Park on Tuesday night that proclaimed, "I'd rather be dead than red", or heard the singing of the Newcastle and West Ham United fans on the tube train on the way back into London, united in their hatred of Old Trafford.

"We stand on our own," Ferguson said. "We have won this without the help of the Premiership because we do not get any support on major issues. It is not a chip on my shoulder, just recognition that we have done it on our own. There is a terrible amount of jealousy towards Manchester United. I do not know why." Four titles in five years, perhaps, might have something to do with it.

TONY SPENCER

Champagne moment: Ferguson prepares to celebrate United's title triumph yesterday

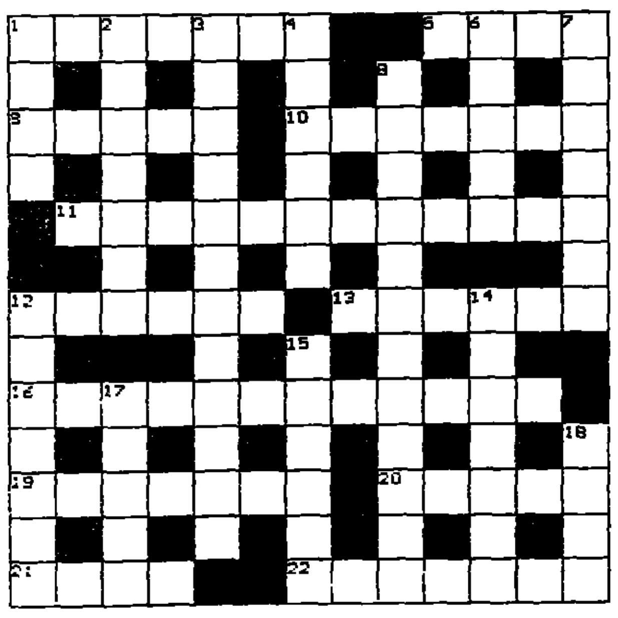
PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	36	20	11	5	74	44	71
Liverpool	37	19	10	8	61	36	67
Arsenal	37	18	11	8	59	31	65
Newcastle	36	18	10	8	68	40	64
A Villa	37	16	10	11	46	34	58
Chelsea	37	15	11	11	56	54	56
Sheff Wed	36	14	14	8	49	49	56
Wimbledon	37	14	11	12	48	46	53
Tottenham	37	13	7	17	43	49	46
Derby	37	11	13	13	44	55	46
Leeds	37	11	12	14	27	37	45
West Ham	37	10	12	15	39	46	42
Everton	37	10	12	15	43	55	42
Blackburn	36	9	14	13	40	39	41
Southmptn	37	10	11	16	50	55	41
Leicester	36	10	11	15	41	52	41
Sunderland	37	10	10	17	35	52	40
Coventry	37	8	14	15	36	53	38
†Middlesbro	36	10	10	16	50	59	37
Nottm F	37	6	16	15	31	54	34

†Middlesbrough deducted three points

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1088 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
- 1 Gruesome (7)
- 5 Narrow aperture (4)
- 9 Distinction, worth (5)
- 10 Virtuosic display (7)
- 11 Repeatedly (4.3.5)
- 12 To slander, traduce (6)
- 13 Lots of: orig. 10,000 (6)
- 16 Carefree (5-2-5)
- 19 Bogey: fabulous animal (7)
- 20 Make reparation (5)
- 21 Still: regular (4)
- 22 Touching line (7)

DOWN
- 1 Act silently: Siegfried's mentor (Wagner) (4)
- 2 Friendly: a drink (7)
- 3 Lepidopterist's trap (9.3)
- 4 (Tide) going out (6)
- 6 Petrarch's muse (5)
- 7 (Gun) pointed: (sportsman) prepared (7)
- 8 Tax-deduction system (3-2-3-4)
- 12 A wheeled transport (7)
- 14 Vexatious (7)
- 15 Tasmania capital (6)
- 17 Vigorous period: to brief (5)
- 18 Escape passage: release (feelings) (4)

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Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP *to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.*

Name/Address ....

SOLUTION TO NO 1087

ACROSS: 1 Arch 3 Frantic 8 Corsage 9 Grunt 10 Visor 11 In touch 13 Langouste 17 Assuage 19 Abhor 20 Tiger 22 Effects 23 Empower 24 Ploy

DOWN: 1 Alcove 2 Chrysalis 3 Flea in one's ear 4 Angst 5 Tau 6 Catchy 7 Matron 12 Unethical 14 Staffs 15 Sartre 16 Frisky 18 Arrow 21 Gap

Liverpool put Ince at top of wanted list

BY DAVID MADDOCK

WHILE Manchester United launched into a familiar celebration on Tuesday evening, Liverpool were left, once more, to endure the lonely route of recrimination. Their failure to secure the FA Carling Premiership has initiated a swift and decisive response as Roy Evans, the manager, turns his mind to next season.

In the wake of Tuesday's disappointment, when Liverpool lost 2-1 at Wimbledon and thus conceded the title to United, Evans's first act has been to dispatch a representative to Milan in an attempt to secure the signing of Paul Ince. An initial offer was made for the Internazionale and England midfield man two weeks ago that promised to make him the highest-paid player at Anfield. However, Liverpool will not have it all their own way, for Chelsea have also approached Ince, who must now weigh up the respective offers.

He is certain to leave Inter after securing an agreement that his transfer will proceed at a reduced fee. Ince suggested to his Italian club that, if he was priced out of a move back to England, he would remain in Italy for the final year of his contract and then return on a free transfer. The threat has succeeded.

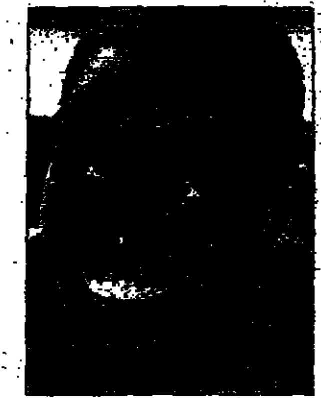
Significantly, the Liverpool manager has said that the players' age presented no problem. "Spending money on a 29-year-old is probably money that you will not get back, but then, under Bosman, it is unlikely that you would get money for any player in the future," Evans said. He hopes to hurry through a deal next week, but Ince may wait until after the FA Cup Final to see if Chelsea, who meet Middlesbrough at Wembley, qualify for Europe.

Ince will not be the only target for Liverpool. After an ultimately depressing season, Evans has taken the decision to make fundamental changes at the club. John Barnes could move to a coaching role, with several other players — including Stan Collymore, Phil Babb, Neil Ruddock, Mark Kennedy, Rob Jones and even Patrik Berger — all likely to leave.

That would clear the ground for other signings. Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, confirmed yesterday that Oyvind Leonhardson will be sold in the summer for a fee of £4.5 million. Evans had talks with the Norway international two weeks ago and is likely to conclude a deal after the season is completed. The Liverpool manager may also enjoy success if he pursues interests in Sol Campbell, of Tottenham Hotspur, and Jari Litmanen, the Ajax and Finland forward.

England may lose the services of Robbie Fowler, Darren Anderton and Ian Walker for the summer. Fowler, the Liverpool forward, is to undergo an operation on his adenoids and may miss the summer tournament in France. Anderton and Walker, of Tottenham, are definite non-starters for all England's close-season games — both have been told to rest for six weeks in an effort to clear long-standing injuries.

Ian Wright, the Arsenal striker, has been charged with misconduct by the Football Association after complaints that he made derisive gestures at spectators and barged a steward at Coventry City on April 21. He has already been charged by the FA over remarks he made to the referee during Arsenal's draw with Blackburn Rovers two days earlier.



Ince: ultimatum

Kevin Davies, the 20-year-old Chesterfield striker, is to join Southampton in a £1 million transfer. Davies was prominent in Chesterfield's giant-killing run to the semi-finals of the FA Cup.

Stuart Pearce is expected to resign as player-manager of Nottingham Forest today. Dave Bassett, the club's general manager, is expected to assume control of team affairs after their relegation from the Premiership.

Robson needs Middlesbrough win

BY DAVID MADDOCK

AT LEAST Bryan Robson's dry sense of irony has not deserted him. Reflecting on Middlesbrough's increasingly anxious attempt to avoid relegation from the FA Carling Premiership, he smiled sweetly yesterday and offered a surprising analysis. "It is the most exciting period in our history," he said.

Perhaps soldiers in the trenches offered similar thoughts, for the Middlesbrough manager could be forgiven if he were suffering from a touch of shell shock after the events of recent weeks. Monday's tense 3-3 draw at Old Trafford was certainly thrilling, but surely not for those involved. The excitement continues tonight at Blackburn Rovers, where Middlesbrough must avoid defeat if they are to maintain any realistic hope of staying up. Even a draw would tip the balance against them.

"Two wins will guarantee league safety and that must be our aim," he said. "We must go for victory in both our remaining matches. We still have some hope if we draw, but six points equals survival and that is the only thing we are concentrating on. No one at this club has even given a second thought about Wembley [and the FA Cup Final]."

A win, or even a draw for that matter, would ensure safety for Blackburn and leave Middlesbrough searching for victory at Leeds United on Sunday, knowing that, for them to escape relegation, results involving Coventry City and Sunderland must go their way. At least the North East club received some good news yesterday, when Fabrizio Ravanelli suggested he could be fit to play at Elland Road.

Sepp Blatter, the general secretary of Fifa, football's world governing body, repeated his criticisms yesterday of the size of the Premiership, which has 20 clubs, and the Premier Liga in Spain, which has 22. "They are both far too big," he said. "It would be much more sensible to have only 16 teams."

Uefa, the European governing body, has argued for an 18-team Premiership, a case that was given unexpected support yesterday in a report by Deloitte and Touche, the management consultancy firm. Presenting the case for a radical restructuring of the Football League, the report says it should comprise 96 clubs "including all from the Vauxhall Conference and, ultimately, two from the Premiership", leaving 18 in the top flight, 24 in the first division, 24 in the second and 24 in each of two regionalised third divisions, north and south.

Lawrence bounces back from brink

James Allen on the return of the bowler who won the battle of wounded knee

The fast-bowling career of David Lawrence, which seemed to have been cruelly ended by injury while playing for England in New Zealand five years ago, resumed yesterday in a manner that will raise spirits far beyond the boundaries of Gloucestershire.

When Lawrence marked out his run and took the new ball in front of a few disbelieving souls at the County Ground in Bristol, the memory of his contorted features, as he lay with a shattered left kneecap during the Wellington Test match in February 1992, seemed all too vivid.

Five years of retirement, however, have done nothing to diminish his heavyweight swagger and Lawrence, a hugely popular figure known universally as "Syd", wasted little time in reminding the Hampshire batsmen that he is still worthy of respect.

After four overs off a shortish approach, a change of ends and a lengthening of his run-up to something like the rumble of old brought swift reward for a courageous decision to give first-class cricket another go at the age of 33. It was with unbridled joy that Lawrence and his team-mates greeted Hancock's outstanding catch at fine leg from Laney's top-edged hook. His bouncer is in good working order.

"It was a relief more than anything," Lawrence said. "People had written me off, perhaps understandably, because it was an horrific injury, but it just shows what you can do with will-power and determination. It was a big day for me and it has been a long time coming. I've just worked hard at getting my fitness back, but I've only really dreamt about this."

Lawrence's comeback had its genesis in a couple of games at the end of last summer, after several months in which the knee had given him no difficulty. A succession of minor muscular problems as the new season unfolded kept him waiting to pull on a Gloucestershire sweater in a competitive match for the first time in six years. Even yesterday, his appearance was in doubt until an hour before the start. "I've had no treatment on the knee for nine months," he said, "but, as for the rest of my body . . ."

A hinged support now covers the knee and the heavy scars bear witness to the trauma of the last of his five appearances for England. In a premature attempt at a comeback the summer after his injury, the patella cracked again. His return has taken everybody by surprise, not least those close to him. "Who would have believed it," Jack Russell said. "When I heard that he was thinking about a comeback, I didn't think it was possible."

It was Russell who was keeping wicket on that fateful day in Wellington, as he was yesterday. "He bowled some lively balls on a wicket which did not really suit him," Russell said. "Give him a wicket that is hard and fast and he will be back to his old pace, no doubt about it. It was virtually like the Syd of old."

Lawrence, who had acquired a wine bar in Bristol during his absence from the game, has set himself a target of ten matches and 50 wickets for the season. "I have got to be sensible," he said. "I don't want to let anybody down."

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